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RESPONSE TO U.S. CLAIMS ON MISSILE DEPLOYMENT

LD170218 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 16 Jul 82

[Text] A spokesman for the State Department, Dean Fischer, has again claimed that the Soviet Union is deploying new medium-range nuclear missiles in its European part after the announcement in March of a unilateral moratorium on their stationing. The claim is another attempt to undermine trust in the Soviet Union and cast a shadow on its policy to reduce armaments and remove the threat of war in Europe. In his recent speech, the Soviet defense minister, Marshal Ustinov, stressed that not only didn't the Soviet Union deploy medium-range nuclear missiles in its European part, but is dismantling the existing ones. Observers feel that the propaganda campaign inspired by Washington is aimed at getting through the stationing of new American nuclear missiles in Western Europe.

Kornilov Comment

LD161524 Moscow TASS in English 1450 GMT 16 Jul 82

["A Canard Sold Three Times Over" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow July 16 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes:

"When you pile up one lie on another, something will stick." This old ploy of liars, extensively used way back by Goebbels, is brought into play over and over again by certain Western forces which are hostile to the cause of detente. This fact has been confirmed anew by the recent allegation of U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Burt, echoed by Lothar Ruehl, official spokesman for the Western German Government, that the USSR "does not honour" its unilateral moratorium on the deployment of medium-range missiles in the European part of the country.

The falsehood cooked up in the United States and "recycled" in Bonn has been effectively debunked by the Soviet press, which has stressed that these allegations play into the hands of those in the West who would like to complicate the Geneva talks on the limitation of nuclear arms in Europe and to justify the U.S. militarist course. But the makers of lies would not take it easy: It is reported from Washington that Dean Fischer, spokesman for the U.S. Department of State, addressing a press conference, was again holding forth on "infringements of the Soviet moratorium." He did not dare to repeat in full the lie which had already been exposed but at the same time, trying by all means to stir up muddy waters, so to speak, engaged in verbal acrobatics, vaguely hinting that since March, when the moratorium was announced, the USSR, according to certain data presumably available available to the United States, had completed or was about to complete two new missile launchers.

In short, Washington attempts for the third time to put into a propaganda orbit a stinking canard. But those who are trying so hard to misinform the public are obviously forgetting that a lie does not become truth regardless of how many times you repeat it. The truth is, as Soviet Defence Minister Dmitriy Ustinov stressed in the Soviet press the other day, that "the USSR is as good as its word. It not only does not deploy medium-range missiles in the European part of the USSR but is reducing their number, nor deploys additonally any medium-range missiles in any area where West European countries would be within their reach." Imposing a moratorium on the deployment of medium-range missiles in the European part of the country, the USSR, unlike the U.S., demonstrated in practice and continues to demonstrate its readiness to lower the level of nuclear confrontation in Europe, and this fact cannot be obscured with the help of cheap lies and falsifications which are used with stubbornness worthy of a better cause by spokesmen for the U.S. Department of State.

USSR SEARCHING FOR 'REASONABLE START AGREEMENT'

LD170032 Moscow in English to North American 2200 GMT 16 Jul 82

[Text] "For a Nuclear-Free Europe" is the headline over an article in the latest issue of the Soviet national daily PRAVDA. Here is the gist of the article:

PRAVDA begins by saying that for over 37 years now there have been peaceful skies over Europe, but in recent years the war danger has grown once again. Agressive American and NATO circles want to turn the countries of Western Europe into a launching pad for new American missiles. Sinister plans have been drawn up at the Pentagon for waging limited nuclear war. Should the hundreds of American Pershing II and cruise missiles be deployed in the NATO countries, this would upset the rough balance of strength between the military alignments facing each other in Europe and would drastically aggravate the European situation.

The Soviet newspaper then singles out what it describes as the key task in averting the menace of a nuclear conflict. This is the task of scaling down the level of military confrontation in Europe and halting the buildup of ever more destructive types of weapons of mass destruction. The Soviet Union and the other socialist countries are making consistent and vigorous efforts to accomplish this vitally important task. PRAVDA says that doing everything possible to rid the nations of the threat of a nuclear missile catastrophe, curb the arms race and enhance their security constitutes the crux of the Peace Program for the 1980's put forward by the 26th congress of the Soviet Communist Party. In their tireless work of implementing this program, the party's Central Committee and the government are going forward with ever new initiatives, some of which concern the problem of reducing nuclear arms in Europe.

The Soviet proposals are summed up by PRAVDA as realistic, constructive and flexible. The Soviet Union, the paper points out, is prepared to reach agreement on ridding Europe of nuclear weapons completely, tactical as well as medium-range. This would be a real zero option, turning the whole of Europe into a nuclear-free zone. But if such a solution does not suit the Western powers, the Soviet Union is ready to reach agreement on completely renouncing all medium-range nuclear systems capable of striking targets in Europe. The Soviet Union is also ready for a gradual but very substantial cut in medium-range nuclear arms by hundreds of units. It proposes seeking mutually acceptable figures on a reciprocal basis.

The Soviet Union is in every way promoting a reasonable agreement at the Soviet-American talks on nuclear arms in Europe which are being held in Geneva. The Soviet leadership has decided on a unilateral freeze on the further deployment of medium-range nuclear arms in the European part of the country. The arms of this type already deployed in this part of the country have been frozen in both quantitative and qualitative terms. The freeze announced also covers preparations for missile deployment, including the construction of new launching facilities for them. At its own initiative, the Soviet Union is reducing such medium-range missiles by a considerable number. Moreover, no such missiles are being deployed additionally in areas where West European countries would be within their range.

PRAVDA then says that an important factor in creating a favorable atmosphere for successful talks has been the Soviet Union's undertaking not to use nuclear weapons first. But, continues the paper, what has been the reaction of the American side to the Soviet peace moves? For many months, American diplomats have been evading a businesslike discussion of the problem of nuclear arms in Europe. They have been dragging their feet as preparations go ahead to deploy Pershing II and cruise missiles in the NATO countries. This procrastination is being camouflaged by the absurd demand that the Soviet Union disarm unilaterally. The zero option given such publicity by Washington calls only for the reduction of Soviet medium-range arms. NATO would in that case acquire a more than two-fold superiority in medium-range nuclear weapon launch vehicles and a three-fold superiority in nuclear warheads. An attempt is thus being made to achieve a NATO military superiority over the socialist states.

Many experts and politicians abroad, PRAVDA says, have noted how extremely one-sided and unrealistic the American posture is. A reasonable agreement on nuclear arms in Europe and on strategic arms can be reached only on the basis of strict observance of the basic principle of equality and equal security. And despite all the difficulties that the Soviet-American talks on this subject in Geneva have revealed, PRAVDA concludes, the Soviet Union continues to be guided by the need to achieve progress at these talks and reach a mutually acceptable agreement. To promote this, the Soviet Union is doing everything in its power.

MBFR DELEGATION HEAD ON STALLED PROGRESS

LD172150 Moscow in Czech and Slovak to Czechoslovakia 1600 GMT 17 Jul 82

[Text] In Vienna the latest, 27th round of the talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe which lasted 2 months has ended. The final plenary session which took place as usual in the Hofburg Palace was addressed by Ambassador Mikhaylov, the head of the Soviet delegation, our correspondent writes.

The socialist countries, Comrade Mikhaylov said, relentlessly search for ways and means to halt the arms race. The Soviet Union unilaterally suspended the deployment on medium-range missiles in the European part of the country and on its own initiative is reducing the number of its missiles. The Soviet decision not to be the first to use nuclear weapons which was announced in Leonid Brezhnev's message to the second special session of the UN General Assembly on disarmament is of extraordinary importance. This step is a stimulus for talks on the limitation of the arms race at all international gatherings, including the Vienna talks.

In assessing the results of the 27th round of talks, the Soviet representative noted that the situation at the talks now is marked by the fact that the participants now have two draft treaties. While the draft treaty tabled by the socialist countries contains good orientation points for achieving a treaty, the Western proposal falls far short of what is necessary for the conclusion of a treaty on the reduction of armed forces and armaments and measures in central Europe connected with this. In spite of agreements reached earlier, the Western draft does not envisage a reduction of armaments or even the limitation of the numerical strength of the air force; nor does this draft facilitate the conclusion of the discussion concerning numbers. The concept it contains -- namely the so-called asymmetry of commitments regarding limitation -- essentially runs counter to the principle not to impair the security of either side. It is impossible not to see in it the obvious striving of NATO countries to obtain unilateral military advantages at the expense of the interests of security of the other side.

The Soviet representative noted in conclusion that positive results at the talks are possible, provided the Western participants consider seriously the stand of the socialist countries and manifest a constructive approach in the search for solutions to contentious questions.

U.S. LASER WEAPON DEVELOPMENT EXAMINED

LD171532 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0710 GMT 17 Jul 82

[Text] New York, 17 Jul (TASS) -- According to the BUSINESS WEEK magazine, the Pentagon is forcing the pace in the development of a laser weapon. "In the late 60's and 70's it spent $1.2 billion on research into the destructive effect of lasers," the magazine points out. "And now the military are asking Congress for $435 million at one time for the 1983 fiscal year to develop components of the first American long-range space laser system and to continue work on several short-range systems."

Over 20 years, BUSINESS WEEK notes, the gigantic sum of $300 million will be earmarked for all the systems currently being developed in the United States, but the advocates of laser weapons, it remarks, insist on the "expediency" of this expenditure. "We are very satisfied with our progress", says D. Tanimoto, director of the Directed Energy Office in the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.

The Pentagon's plans, the magazine says, include setting up in space laser systems that could strike ground, sea and air targets. "Such weapons can be effective against several strategic targets", says Maj Gen D. Lamberson, special assistant to the defense secretary for laser weapons programs.

Additionally, BUSINESS WEKK points out, the agency's chiefs hope that combat laser stations they are currently designing will be able to destroy "enemy" satellites. It is planned to use "shuttle" spacecraft for the assembly and servicing of the stations.

The Pentagon is determined, the magazine concludes, to speed up the development of laser weapons with the support of the U.S. Congress, whose chief accounting department called bluntly in April for the establishment of space combat stations to be accelerated.

IZVESTIYA ON U.S. UNWILLINGNESS TO DISARM

LD181232 Moscow TASS in English 1110 GMT 18 Jul 82

[Text] Moscow July 18 TASS -- The problem of disarmament constitutes a complex of difficult questions. The Soviet Union and other socialist countries have for many decades been consistently working for the containment and complete termination of the arms race unleashed by the aggressive forces of imperialism and for achieving agreement on practical steps towards universal and complete disarmament, IZVESTIYA writes today. However, the leading circles of the West, primarily the present U.S. administration, exploiting shamelessly the "Soviet military threat" myth, decline under all sorts of pretexts or merely overlook the numerous proposals of the socialist community on disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament.

"Soviet superiority", which is discussed so stridently and in so many ways in Washington and certain other Western capitals in order to refuse under this far fetched pretext to assume the commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons is a lie aimed to justify the arms race and to impose it on the peoples in the interests of the war business, the newspaper says. "Only he who has decided to commit suicide can start a nuclear war in the hope of emerging victorious from it. Whatever strength the attacker might possess and whatever way of unleashing a nuclear war he chooses, he will not achieve his goals. Retribution will be imminent," Leonid Brezhnev has warned.

The hegemonistic plans of the United States and NATO are not destined to become reality however hard they try to build up their offensive strategic arms, advancing them to the borders of socialist countries. The "first strike" concept, according to the newspaper, really makes the U.S. allies in the aggressive NATO bloc hostages to Washington's nulcear strategy and victims of the first retaliatory strike but will not save the United States itself from retribution. That is why the principle of equality and equal security of the sides should be that sobering up factor without which no common denominator can be found at the Geneva and Vienna talks. The USSR, which has initiated all the talks on detente and disarmament, has invariably maintained this position, which cannot be said about the United States and other NATO countries, indulging the illusory hope to achieve unilateral advantage and superiority.

The persistent -- or stubborn, to be more precise -- unwillingness of the United States to take reciprocal constructive steps towards disarmament is obvious at the ongoing talks as well, IZVESTIYA stresses. Our stand on strategic arms is common knowledge: The USSR advocates their substantial reduction and limitation, but of course, with due account for the legitimate interests of each other, in accordance with the principle of equality and equal security, and with the preservation of everything positive that has been achieved earlier. These talks should really pursue the aim of limiting and reducing strategic arms rather than become a cover for building them up and for tipping the existing parity.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD181746 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0845 GMT 18 Jul 82

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich Bovin, IZVESTIYA political observer; Nikolay Vladimirovich Shishlin, international affairs journalist; and Viktor Nikolayevich Levin, all-union radio foreign affairs commentator]

Shultz Policy Assessed

[Text] [Levin] Hello, respected comrade listeners. We would like to begin today's program with an event of a basically formal nature: I have in mind the swearing-in of a new man in the post of U.S. Secretary of State...

[Bovin] The 60th secretary of state, by their count.

[Levin] ...And first of all what attracts attention is not, of course, this fact itself, since the decision to replace Haig with Shultz was taken long ago, but the hearing in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee given by the new secretary of state at which he set out his views on basic international questions. This already provides a basis for drawing certain conclusions....

[Bovin] That a change in the politicians will not lead to any change in policy. This is probably one conclusion that will have to be drawn.

[Levin] So, generally speaking, unquestionably no doubts arise here, but at the same time, since Shultz heads the U.S. foreign policy department, what he had to say attracts attention and merits a serious approach.

[Bovin] And the main problem is Soviet-American relations, whether you like it or not.

[Levin] Of course.

[Bovin] And precisely here. If we take this basic problem -- it is a little broader, of course. Let's say: East-West. In this line, Shultz generally firmly reasserted his adherence to the principles which Reagan propounds. But then came some ramifications from this line: for instance, about the problems of relations with West Europe, the problem of Near East policy and many other things, and at this level Near East policy was particularly closely considered in the Senate by the committee, because before all this happened it used to be said that unlike Haig, who was unquestionably regarded as a supporter of Israel, Shultz was allegedly -- so people said and wrote since he was linked with a company which is closely linked with Saudi Arabia -- that Shultz held a more moderate position, that Shultz deemed it necessary to somehow balance the policy, on the one hand maintaining good relations with Israel, but on the other hand maintaining no less good relations with the Arab countries, and hence holding Israel in check in its aggressive activities.

That is what they were writing about. And of course Shultz was asked questions of that kind, and I would say that Shultz was wriggling like the so-called worm on the end of a hook. On the one hand, he said generally that of course Israel is an ally and has to be supported, but on the other hand it is necessary to have good relations with the Arabs, too; so generally no particular changes in policy are discernible here. Some nuances may of course change, but as a whole the U.S. Near East policy still oriented toward Israel first of all will, it seems to me, remain even with a new secretary of state.

[Levin] My attention was drawn to the view of an American paper which wrote that the question is sometimes posed on this level: Will Shultz be a man on Reagan's team, or will he be outside it? But at the same time, the Americans themselves are writing that after all, this team has won no laurels in the sphere of foreign policy, and that Shultz has inherited a very difficult legacy.

This legacy is bad in literally all its directions, and in this connection there is the opinion that maybe the introduction of Shultz into the Reagan team is the last chance to save that team. And here some U.S. circles express the hope that maybe Shultz will play a more independent role and will help to correct the very serious mistakes to compensate for the miscalculations committed to date by the Reagan team.

[Bovin] Of course it will be difficult for Shultz because he is unquestionably an intelligent, widely educated man with good qualifications, especially in the sphere of financial and economic problems. As one American paper wrote: The other members of the Reagan team are pygmies beside him.

Of course, it is difficult to make any kind of forecast, but I would not rule out the possibility that Haig's fate awaits Shultz, with a few modifications, but I find it somehow very difficult to imagine that he will be able to get along with these narrow-minded people, the very restricted ones who surround Reagan at the momemt. I refer of course to their general views.

Events in Lebanon

[Levin] Now, if we turn to Lebanon, the situation in that country is of course extremely complex and tense at the moment, and U.S. policy there is wholly and completely oriented toward support for Israel. In this respect, it is well known that the U.S. administration has striven to create the impression that the Israeli troops' invasion of Lebanon came as a complete surprise to it.

Recently, the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR published an article packed with plenty of facts entitled: What Mr Reagan Knew. The article presents a chronology of the facts about which Reagan knew. Recalling that the invasion by Israeli troops began on 6 June, the newspaper reminds us: On 9 February -- note this -- on 9 February the New York TIMES printed a report from Israel saying that Israel had drafted a plan for a wide-scale invasion of Lebanon and had almost undertaken this a week beforehand. This report, the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR observes, passed the Israeli censor. On 18 February, Israeli Defense Minister Sharon stated that Israeli Armed Forces had been at a high level of combat alert since December of the previous year. On 25 February, Arens, Israel's new ambassador to the United States, told journalists in Washington that an Israeli invasion of Lebanon was becoming increasingly likely. Fresh evidence on 26 February, and on 11 April, 21 April and 9 May provide specific indications showing that all this was being prepared. Israel made no secret of its intentions to invade Lebanon in order to smash the PLO. The United States not only knew, but also gave active support to the Israeli aggression. It can -- must -- also be said that the United States together with Israel bears full responsibility for the outrages and crimes being committed in Lebanon by the Israeli aggressors.

In connection with this, I should like to recall the recent meeting in the CPSU Central Committee with a delegation of the Syrian Communist Party. That meeting stressed that the representatives of the CPSU and the Syrian Communist Party resolutely condemn Israel's barbarous aggression in Lebanon, undertaken with the direct complicity of U.S. imperialism. The document of the meeting adds: The evil deeds being committed in Lebanon are a flagrant crime by imperialism against humanity and are plain evidence of the consequences of policies for peoples.

In this connection, the UN General Assembly resolution adopted as early as 1975, which says that Zionism is a form of racism and racial discrimination, is often recalled. Hence, the quite justified conclusion to the effect that racism is the spiritual brother of fascism. In Israel, they try to create the impression that Zionism as a term is an anti-semitic term which casts aspersions on all persons of Jewish nationality, but just as Communists have never equated Nazism with the German people, Communists do not equate Zionism, the policy of aggressive circles, an imperialist policy, a racilist policy, with the Jewish people.

[Shishlin] Well, Viktor Nikolayevich, I would like to draw our listeners' attention to the fairly complicated political game which the United States itself is playing at the moment in that area.

In essence, the United States has in fact acted as an accomplice in Israel's intervention in Lebanon. But now the United States is trying to don the guise of peacemaker and almost as a savior of the Arab Palestinian peoples. In this respect, the steps being undertaken by U.S. diplomacy, the mission of Habib and the statements being made in Washington regarding the possible deployment of a U.S. military contingent to guarantee a peaceful withdrawal of the military units of the Palestine resistance movement from west Beirut, are quite noteworthy. That is, once a significant step forward has essentially been made in order to achieve what they call the creation of a truly sovereign Lebanon capable of joining in the Camp David process, that is, the creation of some regime in that country which suits Washington and Tel Aviv, the United Shates now wants to please the Arabs as well. They state that they will bring in their military contingent only if every Arab country involved in one way or another in this conflict. . .

[Bovin] Including the PLO.

[Shishlin] Yes, if they request the United States to play a role. And the interesting thing is that this very real tragedy, this tragedy which is no figment of the imagination and which is continuing before our very eyes, entails extremely complex political consequences, it entails extremely complex political consequences.

[Bovin] Nikolay Vladimirovich, before we move on to talk about the consequences, just a few final remarks on the present state of affairs. The way I see it, the situation today is as follows: In principle, the PLO and the Palestinians have agreed to leave west Beirut and to withdraw their military units. It is not clear where the Palestinians are to go from west Beirut and [words indistinct] how they are to go. The Americans are proposing evacuation by ships flying the Red Cross flag. But the Palestinians, as far as can be judged by the latest details, do not agree with this option and want to go out by the Beirut-Damascus highway.

[Shishlin] You have no doubt noticed, Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich, that according to all the latest reports, quite a definite picture is emerging. The Israeli Army has not actually cut off the Beirut-Damascus highway; it is leaving it open, so evidently this option does exist. And it is quite noteworthy that the New York TIMES recently published an extremely interesting interview which Yasir 'Arafat, the PLO leader, gave to an Israeli journalist. This is the first time. . .

[Bovin] It was Avneri, I believe. He is a campaigner for peace in Israel.

[Shishlin] Yes. Incidentally, this Israeli journalist is being accused of treason in Israel. He regards this 'Arafat interview as some kind of signal to the effect that peace is now possible. I would just like to read the questions. This is how the questions went:

If the possibility arises for an honorable departure from here, where, in your view, could you go?
His reply: Palestine.
Another question: I'm talking about tomorrow, not next year.
The reply: To Palestine. That is my right. 'Arafat asked the journalist: Will you be going there?
Yes, he replied, today.
'Arafat said: So you consider that you have the right to go there, and I do not have the right to return there. Where am I to go? I am also a human being. Where am I to go if not to my fatherland? I want to go to my homeland.

[Bovin] It was quite a dramatic exchange.

[Shishlin] Yes, and in these questions can be found the whole tragedy of Palestine.

[Levin] It seems to me that the diplomatic talks which are being held concerning this problem have in recent days acquired a rather new tone. Let us ponder the following: Without detailing in depth the whole history of the complex relations between the Arabs and Israel, let us recall that in 1967 there was the 7-day war, in 1973 the 10-day war, and now the war has lasted more than 40 days.

It has been in progress for more than 40 days, although for instance, a week ago U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT was talking about a convincing Israeli victory over the PLO in Lebanon. I believe that it would be rather irresponsible to speak in those terms today. There is no convincing victory. The Israeli troops are standing outside west Beirut not because, as official Israeli propaganda asserts, they wish to avoid bloodshed and civilian casualties. Last Sunday they subjected west Beirut to a horrifying artillery barrage, firing 30 shells per minute, every minute, for 18 hours. And so their attitude toward the civilian population is clear. But the courage of the PLO fighters and the resistance which has been offered against the Israeli aggressors have introduced new qualities into the overall correlation of forces. The aggression in Lebanon has been no walkover for the Israeli military, which shows the degree of complexity and acuteness of this problem.

[Bovin] There are problems which in principle are not accessible to a solution using military methods. And Israel now has attempted to resolve the Palestinian problem by military means in Lebanon. We can see that it has not succeeded in this! It has not! And everything is again being transferred to the track of some kind of political negotiations. The PLO remains a political and military factor, and overall the problem remains where it was.

[Shishlin] The most amusing thing is that, speaking of the present situation, Weinberger said that, properly speaking, everything that has occurred there, all these so-called Israeli prophylactic measures, are designed to defuse the situation in the Near East and to rid the region of the possibility of Soviet aggression and invasion. He didn't put it badly, eh?

[Bovin] For the Reagan team this is a motif which can be heard in the most inappropriate places, wherever you care to mention. Southern Africa and Latin America, all faced with the threat of Soviet invasion!

[Levin] And now, incidentally, this thesis is acquiring even wider currency among them in light of the developments in the Persian Gulf region. The war between Iran and Iraq, it must be plainly stated, has now assumed a new complexion, a disturbing complexion: It has entered a new phase, and here once again there is a very clear tendency by imperialist propaganda to blame the Soviet Union, although the policy of the Soviet Union could not be clearer.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

[Bovin] We will see what happens next in Tehran, what Khomeyni will decide to do. Will he decide to stop somewhere in the region of, let's say, Basra, or will he go north to liquidate the present Iraqi regime? Much will depend on this, both from the viewpoint of Iran-Iraq relations themselves and of this war, and from the viewpoint of the situation in the whole region. And now the most varied forecasts are being expressed on this matter. It worries many, of course, especially in countries such as Saudi Arabia and the Emirates, who fear that the wave of the Shi'ite Muslim revolution could overtake their countries. In any case, what is happening now between Iran and Iraq introduces another note of alarm into the whole melody of the Near East, if I may put it that way.

On the one hand, this war to some extent distracts attention, objectively distracts attention, from what is happening in Lebanon, and on the other hand these events cannot of course be considered in isolation from each other. They are connected on the geopolitical level and on the level of the strategic calculations which relate to this region as a whole, and for us, of course, this is not a matter of no concern. We are talking about countries bordering the Soviet Union, which are situated next to our border, and this must undoubtedly be taken into account, and is being taken into account by us in our political thinking.

[Shishlin] Objectively this flare-up of war suits those forces which have committed aggression against the Arab people of Palestine and against sovereign Lebanon.

[Bovin] It is no accident that all the facts show that, although they denied it furiously, Israel nevertheless helped Iran in this situation, reckoning that in the given situation Paghdad presented a greater threat than Tehran although there are plenty of anti-Israeli slogans and the like in Tehran.

Nevertheless Tel Aviv has aided Tehran in the present war, just as Tehran was also assisted -- this is another of the paradoxes of our time -- by such countries as Libya and Syria for instance. They helped and sympathized with Iran, while the moderate Arab states came out in the given situation on the side of a radical regime like that of Baghdad. So here everything is highly confused.

[Levin] But in this whole situation a very serious threat stands out. It lies in the fact that the war between Iran and Iraq could give another highly useful pretext, from Washington's viewpoint, to send its Rapid Deployment Force to the oil-producing states, and such conversations are already taking place. It is very curious that this time, it seems to me, the Americans want to slightly rearrange the roles. And it is not the Americans themselves who are speaking first about the possibility of sending such forces, but the Arab Emirates and other oil-producing states in the Persian Gulf region, as if to say: What can we do in the face of Iran? We will have to appeal to the United States for assistance. And it seems to me the United States would very much like to get in there, although this is of course bound up with very great problems.

[Bovin] Of course they want to, but it is a thorny issue.

[Levin] It is a very thorny issue.

[Bovin] It certainly is very thorny without a doubt. The Americans could undoubtedly decide on such a step, in my view.

[Levin[And this will add to the problems: It will only add to the problems and will by no means resolve anything. Shultz will have to put in a lot of work here. But, as you quite rightly said right at the start, Aleksandr Yevgeniy, all the same, the main problem for Shultz, and the main problems for the United States is relations with the Soviet Union. In this perspective, everything Shultz said to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee merits the closest attention. And he said first and foremost that policy regarding the Soviet Union must be built on the basis of strength.

Economic Sanctions Viewed

[Bovin] Yes, the tough policy, conducting talks from a position of strength: Shultz used all the Reagan vocabulary. But it is here that the Americans have great difficulties as well -- take, for instance their relations with West Europe. It is this tough policy regarding the Soviet Union, expressed in Reagan's policy concerning the gas pipeline deal, which has in practice resulted only in causing indignation in West Europe -- indignation, not some concealed dissatisfaction of which there was much earlier. But if even Thatcher has put her foot down and stated that they will under no circumstances give in to this diktat, that British firms will do what they have to, well, if Thatcher has gone as far as this, then in general the row in the respectable family is quite obvious. Here Shultz, just like Haig, is in this sense a European, nevertheless; and he will evidently try somehow to smooth out these contradictions, all the more since previously, for example, Shultz opposed these economic sanctions.

[Shishlin] He told the Senate committee panel that he is in general (?not a) supporter of sanctions.

[Bovin] Yes, but how he is going to persuade Reagan to lift the sanctions is also fairly complicated. In any case, relations with West Europe are now at the crux, so to speak, of U.S. foreign policy, and here, of course, he is going to have a long and difficult time repairing the damage caused by the Reagan administration's crude and clumsy steps.

Resolve To Build Pipeline

[Shishlin] Evidently the matter looks like this: As far as the construction of the gas pipeline itself is directly concerned, then we can say that taking into account the reaction of West Europe and the Japanese, the gas pipeline will be built.

[Bovin] No doubt about it.

[Shishlin] It will be built, and the gas will be sold. Incidentally, an agreement was recently signed in Leningrad between Soviet and West German banks according the USSR credits amounting to DM4 billion to finance deals for gas.

[Levin] Yes, Nikolay Vladimirovich, this credit is guaranteed by the FRG Government, which is very important (?for our country).

[Shishlin] What is more, the FRG Government is now examining the possibility of passing a bill which would protect the German economy from similar actions undertaken by Reagan. That is, from the viewpoint of ensuring the construction of the gas pipeline, everything necessary is there; but from the viewpoint of the political consequences, we must say that this decision has really complicated even further the already extremely defficult Soviet-U.S. relations and has cast a deep shadow on international relations as a whole.

[Levin] I would like to add here yet another fact. This week the EEC sent a note to the United States expressing sharp protest at the U.S. administration's decision to ban the sale of equipment to the Soviet Union for extracting oil and gas. This note says plainly that this is contrary to the principles of international trade, and that this decision may have as its consequences long-term negative effects on relations between U.S. and European firms in general, and contains many other very harsh words. I cannot remember anything like this in the whole history of the EEC's existence. There have been difficult relations between the United States and the Common Market; situations of conflict between individual states and the United States have arisen; but I cannot remember the EEC coming out so cohesively and in such a form through official channels. And the fact that all this is happening just as Shultz is assuming the office of secretary of state, as Schmidt is preparing for a trip to the United States to meet Reagan -- he states plainly that the main object of the visit is to talk to Reagan about these U.S. measures -- and as FRG Economics Minister Lambsdorff also intends to hold talks in the United States attracts attention. A critical situation is taking shape here which very convincingly shows that the United States in this problem, in the problem of trade with the Soviet Union, the problem of its relations with West Europe, has disregarded the principles of reality and in this....

[Bovin] I would put it this way: The Americans are great masters of digging such a sizable pit. They get in themselves and then with desperate efforts they try to climb out of this pit, and this is what Shultz's task will now consist of: to nevertheless somehow try to pull the Reagan administration out of this pit. But, as the saying used to go: It is hard work pulling the hippopotamus out of the mud.

[Shishlin] The more so since he does not want to get out of the mud. Not long ago, President Reagan was returning from vacation when journalists asked him on the aircraft whether rumors saying that he was about to reconsider the decision on the question of sanctions were true, and he categorically denied such a possibility.

[Levin] Nothing new is discernible in the U.S. approach to relations with the Soviet Union.

UN Disarmament Session

Returning now to the work of the United Nations General Assembly special session on disarmament, we may say with good reason that the United States applied the maximum effort so that the session would not adopt any specific decisions and let us say openly that they succeeded in this. But, nevertheless, this session will remain in history, will remain primarily as very clear and convincing confirmation that the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries approach the problems of ensuring peace with a high sense of responsibility. The message of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev which spoke of the unilateral decision by the Soviet Union not to be the first to use nuclear weapons is an unprecedented event whose significance has been fully recognized by far by everyone, let us be frank.

And the very clear military-political significance of this decision is shown in the article by Comrade Marshal of the Soviet Union Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and our country's minister of defense, in the article entitled "To Remove the Threat of Nuclear War" which was published in PRAVDA. Comrade Ustinov writes that the new Soviet initiative is a logical continuation of our principled foreign policy course and a natural stage of development of our military policy, of our defensive military doctrine. This decision demonstrates the consistency of the USSR in the realization of the joint position of the states that are participants of the Warsaw Treaty. In examining the obligation taken from the viewpoint of strategy and tactics of the Soviet Armed Forces, it must be remarked that the decision not to be the first to use nuclear weapons bears a universal nature. This decision, this really unique decision, creates a new political climate in the world. It will have an effect on the whole development of international affairs, which once more shows our firm conviction of victory for the ideals of peace, the victory of the ideals of international cooperation.

And incidentally, tomorrow the third anniversary of the victory of the Nicaraguan revolution is being celebrated, which once more shows that the forces of progress, the forces of peace are confidently advancing. With this our broadcast ends. Thank you for your attention, respected comrades.

GAS COMPRESSOR OPERATING ON PIPELINE

LD181842 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 18 Jul 82

[Text] A new gas compressor installation has been put into operation on the route of the Siberia-West Europe gas pipeline in Kuybyshevskaya Oblast. Our correspondent, Yuriy Panfilov reports:

This installation is the first of this type in our country. It has been erected here, near the town of Tolyatti, on the route of the Urengoy-Petrovsk gas pipeline, which is already in operation, and is situated directly in the open air. The plan envisages the kit unit method of assembly and does not necessitate the erection of special blocks. For this reason, the construction is a million roubles cheaper and the time needed for the operations is halved. Because of their compactness, the installations can now be delivered to the route of the gas pipeline not only by motor vehicle and railway but also by air transport. But perhaps the main virtue of the new installation is its high productivity. In comparison with previous installations, it has increased productivity by three times. I now invite to the microphone the chief of the new installation, Anatoliy Vassilyevich (Bazovayev).

Anatoliy Vassilyevich, how do you evaluate the new installation from the purely operational point of view?

[Bazovayev] I have had occasion to work on several compressor stations and I must say that this is an excellent installation in keeping with the best Soviet and foreign models. The installation has been built on the basis of an aviation engine, which explains, to a significant extent, it reduced size and weight. In particular, the metal content of the gas pumping set itself has been decreased by seven times in comparison with preceeding ones. The productivity of this installation is more than 30 million cu m of natural gas per 24 hours. The number of operators has been reduced to three, which is primarily explained by the increased level of automation of all technical processes. At the moment, the installation has been put into the planned operation stage. All systems are operating normally and I believe that this is the best response to the present U.S. administration, which is attempting to cut off the supply of equipment for the construction of the Siberia-Europe gas pipeline.

[Panfilov] Let me add that 60 such installations will be manufactured in our country by the end of next year for compressor stations on the Urengoy-Uzhgorod gas pipeline and on other trunk pipelines.

TASS: TEXT OF ARBATOV ARTICLE ON U.S. POLICY

LD161812 Moscow TASS in English 1754 GMT 16 Jul 82

[All quotation marks as received]

[Text] Moscow July 16 TASS -- Follows the unabridged text of Academician Georgiy Arbatov's article "American Policy in the Dreamland" carried by PRAVDA today.

"Once, just at the beginning of his term in office, Ronald Reagan exhorted his fellow countrymen not to be afraid of 'heroic dreams.' It is hard to say how millions of ordinary Americans, preoccupied with economic troubles and the increased nuclear danger, have been following this advice.

"As for U.S. foreign policy, however, it has really been wandering in the dreamland for 18 months now. It is completely divorced from the real situation, the true interests of the Americans and the economic, political and even spiritual capabilities of the United States.

"Of course, departure from reality was originally inherent in the Republican political platform and in the intentions, views and ideology of many people who in 1981 assumed posts of responsibility in Washington. That platform was aptly called 'forward-backward!' at the time. What is surprising is how difficult, painful and slow the process of sobering-up has been, the process which has up to now been interspersed with periods of uncontrollable political raving, with calls for a 'crusade' against the USSR and other socialist countries made over and over again, with unbelievable directives given to the Armed Forces to make ready for waging victorious wars of every kind, and with new adventuristic plans drafted. All this is taking place against the background of the escalation of the arms race and the policy leading to the further aggravation of international tension."

"A year ago the debates as to whether the U.S. had a comprehensive foreign policy could be considered natural in view of the lack of experience and certain other peculiarities of many people who had moved to Washington. But if the talk that the administration has more than enough desire and passion but no policy continues even today, almost half way through its term, this is explained by other, more lasting causes, primarily by utter disregard for the realities of the present-day world, the price of which always is defeat.

"The success and efficiency of policy can be measured in different ways. In particular, it is legitimate to consider it from the point of view of compatibility (or incompatibility) of the consequences of policy and the goals it pursues.

"What goals did the Reagan administration set itself on the world scene? The main one of them, to all appearances, was to secure for the U.S. the possibility to dictate its will to other countries, to blackmail them with impunity and, if Washington saw it fit, to use measures of coercion, including the extreme ones. Hence emphasis on the arms build-up and the promotion of the 'applicability' of military force in foreign policy and a course of achieving military superiority and developing and using the interventionist 'Rapid Deployment Force.' Washington set about fulfilling these plans with a vengeance: Every new U.S. military budget was a super-record, and Washington demanded that its allies speedily increase their military appropriations. Military blackmail, arms brandishing and the whipping up of war hysteria became the alpha and omega of U.S. official documents and American leaders' speeches."

"The world public has heard from them that there are in the world things 'more important than peace', that nuclear war is not so very fearsome and that it can be survived and even won, that the Soviet Union faces the alternative between altering its system and being doomed to a destructive war, that the United States may stage a 'demonstration' nuclear explosion to scare its foes, etc. One article is not enough to recollect all the 'hawkish' statements made by Washington officials since the beginning of last year!

"What are the actual results of these activities? World tension, alas, has grown. The arms race has become even more intensive and dangerous. The threat of nuclear war has undoubtedly increased.

"But has all this brought Washington what it wanted or added in any way to U.S. might and international influence? No, this has not come to pass.

"Of course, 18 months is not the time to summarize the results of the implementation of plans for a large-scale military build-up. But many things here have (?long) been perfectly obvious. In particular, it is clear that the parity achieved between the USSR and the U.S. and between the Warsaw Treaty Organization and NATO is rather stable. Given the present-day amounts and qualitative characteristics of armaments, it is very difficult to tip the balance of forces to any substantial degree in one's own favour. It becomes absolutely impossible to do so if the other side takes proper counter-measures against such a threat.

"This is reality, and all the fuss, all the unprecedented hue and cry raised by the administration over military matters have not given the slightest indication that it has managed to come up with anything new which could shake this reality or any other incontrovertible truth of our time, such as the fact that unleashing nuclear war equals suicide, that any hope for victory in such a war is madness and that the very idea of a 'limited' nuclear war is a dangerous illusion.

"Trillions of dollars more can be spent on the military build-up in the attempts to give the lie to these truths but never reach success. And the dream of the extreme right-wing forces about the extension of possibilities for the 'applicability' of armed force (including nuclear weapons) that would be safe and secure for America will reamin an empty dream.

"From this point of view the past 18 months have demonstrated with particular clarity that the concrete results of U.S. activities are the direct opposite of the goals Washington has set itself. Indeed, it is these activities that have facilitated profound change in the public mood within a very short period of time. The public has realized keener than ever before the existence and growth of the nuclear threat. The anti-nuclear movement in Western Europe and subsequently in the United States itself has gained such a great momentum precisely on this basis. The changing socio-psychological climate has resulted in growing opposition to the Reagan administration's course on both sides of the Atlantic."

"The attempts to blame all this on 'Moscow's intrigues' and the communists did not convince anyone. It was becoming increasingly did not convince anyone. It was becoming increasingly obvious that this time the Reagan administration itself was the 'great enlightener' of the public: It was the administration's policy and rhetoric, its words and deeds that sacred millions and millions of people, and not with the mythical 'Soviet threat'. People awakened to the real prospect of nuclear catastrophe offered by the arms race and the escalation of international tension whipped up by the U.S. administration.

"It began its term in the unshakable belief that the U.S. voters had given at the elections the mandate for the runaway arms race, the revival of the cold war and armed ventures in other countries. Whether Washington admits it or not today, developments have demonstrated that it was a bad delusion and that the majority of the Americans had given no such mandate to the government. One can say with certainty that the plans for the further militarization of the economy, politics and other areas of life in the U.S. will come against growing opposition.

"The hope that the course of destroying detente, reviving the cold war and instigating a 'crusade' against the USSR and other socialist countries world enable Washington to cement its allies and make them blindly follow in the wake of American policy has also proved erroneous. It has turned out that the question of detente, disarmament and relations with the USSR (including trade), contrary to such hopes, has become another bone of contention.

The attempts to improve relations with allies and to strengthen the military bloc NATO are not bringing any tangible results at all. Rather, Washington's another major failure is transpiring here. Contradictions have grown more actue in every major area, in particular, in the economy. It was not upon Reagan's assumption of office that problems emerged in that area, but now they have been dramatically aggravated, both because of objective reasons, such as the general deterioration of the economic situation and the crisis, and because of U.S. unceremonious policy deliberately aimed at weakening allies (suffice it to mention the unsurious interest rates in the United States, the inflated dollar rate and customs protectionism bordering on a 'trade war').

"Contradictions in the main sphere of NATO's operations, the sphere of security, have become more obvious than ever before. The West Europeans are beginning to realize, or at least subconsciously sense, that the U.S. and West European approaches to the problems of security are increasingly diverging. The words and certain deeds of the incumbent administration have fortified them in their suspicion that the U.S. views Western Europe as a sort of forward theatre of operations on which a war with the Warsaw Treaty countries could be waged. In case of need, even nuclear weapons can be employed, with the United States safely remaining on the sidelines. Many people realize, of course, that it is an illusion and that, having unleashed such a war, the United States will not remain on the sidelines but will be affected by that war to the same extent as others."

"But the Europeans, naturally, are not pleased but scared and outraged by such an attitude to Western Europe. For them it is not a 'forward theatre of operations' but the only place on earth where they can live, and which they would not at all like to sacrifice for the sake of the adventuristic plans of Washington's armchair strategists.

"Another area of frictions has lately begun to emerge in addition to all this. The incumbent administration consists of a rather ideologized group of people representing all but the most rightwing views of those current in the West today.

"Of course, the communists and the socialist countries are the most hateful enemy for the proponents of such views. But the right-wingers have no sympathy for liberals either, particularly for the social democrats and socialists of whom there are so many in Western Europe. The grouping now in power in the United States is waging a fierce struggle against these opponents in its own country, amost a no-hold-barred battle. Apparently, many Europeans fear that the incumbent U.S. administration may spread this struggle to their own countries and that it has already begun in certain instances to meddle in their internal affairs, trying to destabilise the situation of liberals and social democrats and to bolster right-wing opposition.

"Generally speaking, relations between the United States and many of its allies have become markedly more complicated, even tense.

"The past 18 months have not brought any improvement in U.S. relations with the developing countries either. While in the 1970s the United States was reaping in the so-called Third World the 'fruit' of the policy of diktat, exploitation and aggression practised during the 1950s and the 1960s, today Washington is 'sowing' anew. This time, perhaps, the 'fruit' will be ready for picking far quicker in Latin America, in the Arab world and in other regions.

"When all is said and done, Washington cannot help realizing its foreign policy setbacks. It is this realization that explains the fact that the administration has begun talking about its readiness to negotiate with the USSR and even about arms reductions. Certain respectable American specialists have already stated that a movement from positions of extremism towards the center of the road that is usual for the U.S. is taking place and that everything is returning onto the beaten track.

"In reality the situation seems more complex. Political setbacks force Washington to make political manoeuvres. However, it does not yet go farther than those political manoeuvres designed to mislead and reassure the public. Moreover, it appears that there are for every peace gesture several 'hawkish' ones, intended as it were, to prove that the Reagan administration's policy remains the same and that it is not going to renounce its militarist and fiercely anti-Soviet course."

"For instance, the President's Eureka speech, in which he consented to the resumption of the talks on the limitation and reduction of strategic arms, was followed not only by his speeches in the British Parliament and at the U.N. General Assembly, pervaded with the spirit of the cold war, but by the deliberate leakage to the public of the contents of the National Security Council memorandum, signed by the President, and the Pentagon's defence directives for 1984-1988.

"The latter document deserves a closer examination. The newspaper New York TIMES entitled one of its commentaries on those directives 'A War to Death.' Indeed, it is rather a bellicose document, actually declaring on the Soviet Union and other socialist countries 'struggle to extermination' by all means, from economic and technological 'warfare' and unlimited subversive operations to a war waged by conventional and even nuclear weapons.

"This document is characteristic of the hand of many people from the current administration: It is brazen and impudent and at the same time frivolous and devoid of ideas. It contains a heap of patent lies, which even compelled General Jones, the outgoing chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, to warn that any attempt to carry out some of the plans ordered by the directives would be tantamount to throwing money into a bottomless pit."

"At the same time the 'directives' are a specimen of bluff, of attempts to scare other countries and 'brace up' oneself and one's allies. The authors of this document have obviously fallen victim to their own propaganda with regard to both the possibilities of their own country and the problems faced by others.

"Nevertheless, the document, I think, is 'useful' in a way: It forcefully exposes the political manoeuvres lately made by the administration as steps aimed at misleading the public and the governments of other countries. The directives confirm the administration's resolve to carry on its militaristic and fiercely anti-Soviet course.

"In this sense the document has become a veritable eyeopener. Let the reader see for himself: The President's Eureka speech on May 9 contained a moving passage that at the Soviet-American summit he would say that the United States was ready to develop a new understanding with the USSR and that the Soviet Government and people had nothing to fear from the United States. Two weeks later we read, as a comment on these words, the directive obliging the U.S. Department of Defense to draft plans for defeating the Soviet Union at any level of armed conflict, from insurgent operations to nuclear war."

"This approach can hardly be written off as the Pentagon's 'own invention': It actually reflects some sort of the gut instinct of the leaders of the present administration. Small wonder that at the end of the latest NATO session in Bonn President Reagan, having assured his counterparts that he would conduct arms limitation talks with the USSR, immediately exhorted them to remember that, politically speaking, the West remained in a state of war with the Soviet Union.

"Here we come against another glaring gap between U.S. policy and reality. Washington has forgotten and refuses to recall that successful talks on arms limitation and the prevention of nuclear war itself call for normal relations, relations of peaceful coexistence and detente, between countries with different social systems, primarily the leading ones, the USSR and the United States. One cannot hope for continued peace while unleasing a total 'political war' on the socialist countries, spurring on the arms race and fomenting hatred for the USSR.

"Professor George Kennan, a veteran U.S. diplomat, recently observed that he thought the views of the Soviet Union currently prevalent in the American Government and journalism to be extremist, subjective and far removed from anything prompted by any sober-minded examination of the surrounding reality and that these views are not merely ineffective but downright dangerous as a basis of political actions."

"Apparently, this view has been fully corroborated by the latest developments, such as the escalation of the arms race and armed conflicts, which have become increasingly frequent and dangerous. Of course, history recognizes no subjunctive mood. It is always difficult to guess how events could proceed in different political conditions, but we may state with certainty that if the U.S. did not pursue a course of escalating tension and aggravating relations with the USSR but continued to extend dialogue, conduct successful talks and expand cooperation, it would be possible to preclude these conflicts, quickly localize them and settle them by peaceful means. This applies in full to the Middle East and, perhaps, even to the South Atlantic. A course of confrontation between NATO and the Warsaw Treaty Organization and between the U.S. and the USSR in the present-day world is creating a political atmosphere and a situation in international relations which facilitate the emergence and aggravation of conflicts. This is a play with fire, dangerous, in partcular, to those who start it. Moreover, this course of confrontation has no future at all."

"Of course, few people will be surprised by the fact that the right-wing extremists in the U.S. hate the Soviet Union and would like to 'make short shrift' of it. The directives on this score, however, look ridiculous. Their authors are obviously forgetting the fact that attempts of this sort were already made in the past -- by entente, by the 'axis' powers and by the United States itself during the cold war -- and were invariably a failure. They all the more have no chance of success today.

"This, however, does not detract from the dangers inherent in the present-day U.S policy, dangers to the cause of peace, to all the peoples and to the United States itself. These dangers and threats do not escape the notice of those viewed by the U.S. administration as its foes -- and today even the notice of America's allies and the public at large. This has been demonstrated anew by the strong reaction to U.S. complicity in the Israeli aggression in Lebanon."

"As for the immediate future, I would risk the following statement:

"U.S. policy would be good to the extent to which it is not allowed to be bad, safe (not only for us but also for America itself and its allies) to the extent to which it is not allowed to become dangerous. It will not be allowed to evolve in those directions by economic and political realities, by the policies of other countries, by the Americans' common sense and by the striving of the peoples for self-preservation. I hope that these factors will be enough for the continued political processes to bolster the realistic principles and to return American policy to an understanding of not only the existing contradictions but also of very serious and vitally important common interests, the interests of peace and survival, which require not only talks but also agreements as well as the overall improvement of relations between the two countries. What if this does not come to pass? I personally would find solace in the thought that a time will come and it will be possible to say: It is not with this administration that history began, and it is not with it that it has ended."

KORNILOV ON U.S.-PRC MILITARY 'PARTNERSHIP'

PM160727 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 7 Jul 82 p 3

[Yu. Kornilov article under the rubric "With the Weapon of Truth": "Dangerous Partnership"]

[Text] "Do everything to remove the threat of nuclear holocaust!" was the theme of the general discussion which ended a few d ys ago at the UN General Assembly's second special session on disarmament. Representatives of the UN member states, as indeed the whole international public, are laying special stress on the exceptional importance and and timeliness of the new initiative of the USSR, which has adopted the commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. Diametrically opposed to this is the stance of Washington which, continuing the line of cranking up the arms race, not only did not show a readiness to assume as clear and precise a commitment as the USSR, but also tried to denigrate the Soviet initiative's significance by asserting that it "is not an effective means of eliminating the threat of nuclear war." And what position did Beijing adopt? The PRC newspaper RENMIN RIBAO acknowledges that the Soviet initiative aroused interest among the session participants and then...rehashed the false theses of U.S. propaganda, intimidating the West with the mythical "Soviet threat."

Beijing's position on problems of curbing the arms race is graphic confirmation that the Chinese leadership, playing up to Washington and often acting in harmony with it, is continuing a hegemonist foreign policy geared toward whipping up international tension. China continues to reject all proposals aimed at improving the political situation in the world. The inflammatory calls on the need to achieve military superiority over the USSR do not cease. China is also encouraging the U.S. line of raising the level of nuclear confrontation in Europe and supports R. Reagan's decision on the production of neutron weapons. Nurturing plans for forming a China-U.S.-Japan bloc, Beijing's rulers are campaigning for the cobbling together of a "very broad international front" against the USSR and the creation of a "joint resistance structure," which suggests not only parallel, but also joint actions with imperialism against peace and socialism on the basis of a so-called strategic coincidence of interests.

In an attempt to utilize the opposition between the two world social systems to ensure the achievement of its own great-power goals, the PRC is primarily activating the Asiatic salient of its policy. In tandem with the United States, it is striving to dominate its neighbors and step up the pressure on the countries of Indochina. China's hegemonists, encouraged by Washington, are not ceasing the armed provocation against socialist Vietnam. Washington and Beijing, which bear d..rect responsibility for the tragedy endured by the Kampuchean people, are striving to cast Kampuchea into the bloody past again, and under their patronage a farce has just been acted out in Kuala Lumpur which sought to cobble together a "Kampuchean coalition government" in which the key role is assigned to Pol Pot's men. Beijing is trying by every means to torpedo the initiatives of the Indochinese countries, which support the transformation of Southeast Asia into a zone of peace and cooperation.

The meaning of "parallel" U.S. and Chinese actions in Asia is also clearly visible from the example of Pakistan, to which Washington has assigned the role of regional policeman. By the efforts of Washington and Beijing, this country has been turned into a bridgehead from which imperialism and reaction are waging an undeclared war against revolutionary Afghanistan. At bases and camps set up in Pakistan, bandits and terrorists are being trained not only by American, but also by Chinese instructors. They are being equipped with weapons and for murder and arson, the destruction of villages, and the desecration of mosques, are being "rewarded" not only with U.S. dollars, but also with Chinese yuan. What "parallelism" is this!

In recent years, Beijing has been gaining increasing access to NATO's military arsenals. For its part, the present U.S. administration is demonstrating a readiness to satisfy the Beijing militarists' appetites far more generously than its predecessors. Does it seem so long ago that the world's press reported with alarm that U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown, while visiting Beijing, "hinted" at the possibility of selling China "dual purpose" equipment suitable for civilian and military purposes! That was in January, 1980. Since then the U.S. administration has approved over 1,200 licenses for the sale of equipment and technology to China.

By all accounts, those circles in the West, primarily in the United States, with whose help China is building up its "military muscle," believe that it will be possible to channel Beijing's hegemonist aspirations in one -- northern -- direction only. These are dangerous, shortsighted schemes! The real threat stemming from Beijing militarism is primarily to those neighbors of China which, in Beijing's estimation, are relatively weak militarily. It is appropriate to recall that the maps now in use in China depict not just extensive areas of the USSR, but also the territories of many sovereign Asian states as "belonging" (fully or partly) to China!

In an attempt to justify the line of cooperation with Beijing which is based on the desire to draw China politically and economically into the capitalist system, some people in the West are asserting that some time ago China "changed its approach to questions of war and peace." Yes, China is now no longer declaiming the cannibalist concept formed by Mao Zedong on the "inevitability" and even "desirability" of world war but, on the contrary, is stating (including from the UN rostrum) that it supports peace and that war "must be averted." These propaganda ziazags are evidence that Beijing is being forced to take account of theose public sentiments which are making themselves felt increasingly strongly in the West, too. But does this really alter the essence and thrust of China's foreign policy strategy which now, as in the past, is profoundly hostile to the interests of peace and detente? What is the value of these appeals for peace if Beijing supports the imperialist arms race line? If, while expatiating about "averting war," it makes this dependent on prior conditions absolutely incompatible with the task of maintaining peace -- the cobbling together of an aggressive "anti-Soviet front" and incitement of confrontation between the two world social systems? The essence of China's hegemonist foreign policy course has not been changed, nor indeed could it be changed, by the fact that Beijing, when flirting with the "Third World" countries, from time to time considers it beneficial to publicly disassociate itself from the most odious manifestations of the imperialist policy of aggression in diktat, for example, in the Near East.

It is quite obvious that the ultimate strategic goals of Washington and Beijing not only do not coincide, but are highly contradictory -- let us merely recall that haggling over Taiwan. The facts confirm that both partners are striving to utilize the other to secure their own selfish interests. "When we play our 'China card' against the Soviet Union in the geopolitical arena, we would do well to remember that China's leaders, holding different views of the future than we do, are playing their 'American card' with aims hostile to our own," G. McGovern, former U.S. senator noted, with full justification in this context.

But such sober voices are lost in the chorus of statements by official Washington, which is continuing a course of confrontation and arms race, including exploiting the Chinese leadership's antisocialist great-power policy. The partnership between imperialism and Beijing hegemonism is a fact. It is a dangerous phenomenon in world politics. Dangerous for the whole world, the U.S. and Chinese peoples included.

GLEBOV ON REPORTED PRC-CIA COOPERATION

OW180530 Moscow Radio Peace andProgress in Mandarin to China 1100 GMT 17 Jul 82

[Glebov commentary]

[Text] The Chinese leaders have condemned U.S. imperialist policy in words, but have become the protectors of U.S. interests in deeds. China played this role when the United States committed aggression against Socialist Vietnam.

China has also maintained close ties with the main US espionage agency -- the CIA. The representatives of the spy agencies of both China and the United States have been attending the various American-Chinese meetings held at all levels recently.

For example, the delegation led by former U.S. Secretary of State Haig to China in the summer of 1981 included (Woodel), a former CIA deputy director and an ambassador for special assignments of the Reagan administration. The aim of this so-called ambassador's visit to Beijing was to strengthen relations between the CIA and China's secret agencies. What merits attention is that among the members of the Chinese side at a meeting was a deputy head of a Chinese military espionage organ. According to a report, both sides had fruitfully exchanged views at the meeting. Both sides had incessantly expanded the scope in the exchange of information. They had not only exchanged military intelligence and economic information on various countries, but also reference material regarding the international communist movement, the national liberation movements as well as the various activities of the organs and individuals working for such movements.

Dear listeners, you have not heard it wrong: The Beijing leaders have provided the CIA with reference material on the communist movement and the national liberation movements. We would like to cite an example. After the fascist coup in Chile, a large number of Communist Party members and members of other leftist organs were arrested. Later, the truth was made public. The Chilean resistance movement's free press said that the Pinochet fascist clique had obtained a list of members of the leftist organs from the CIA and that this U.S. espionage agency got the list from the Chinese Embassy in Santiago. Some African nations had also made public some information concerning the cooperation between U.S. and Chinese spy agencies. New evidence of the Beijing leaders' double-dealing activities was discovered when the shah's regime was overthrown in Iran. The captured documents showed that when the Beijing leaders, who posed as friends of the Arab nations, established ties with the Arab people, they had tried their best to obtain economic and military information on the Near East countries as well as on such countries' plans in struggling against Zionism and imperialism. The documents also showed that such information was passed on to the U.S. espionage agency, which handed it over to the Israeli intelligence agency.

The Chinese leaders have opened China's doors wider and wider to the U.S. espionage agency. For example, they plan to build several relay stations in China to relay U.S. broadcasting stations, including not only the Voice of America, but also the CIA-funded Radio Liberty and Radio Free Europe, which have been carrying out antisocialist sabotage activities. The CIA is prepared to send in its own spies, who will pose as the reporters for these radio stations, to carry out illicit activities in China.

Everyone has heard the news about the establishment of an America-Chinese electronics reconnaissance base in Xinjiang's Uighur Autonomous Region. The U.S. and Chinese spy organs plan to expand its sphere of cooperation into the field of space. At present, they are discussing the sale of a U.S.-made spy satellite, ground receiving stations and satellite monitoring stations to China. According to news from a US weekly magazine INTERNATIONAL FLYING, if this sale is concluded, the spy satellite will be launched into space orbit by a U.S. carrier rocket

While running counter to the interests of the national liberation movements and the international communist movement of the people of various nations, the Beijing leaders also hope to obtain aid of all kinds from the United States and other imperialist nations. However, history has time and again proved that the imperialists will never become China's friends. One would be naive if he believed that the U.S. reconnaissance personnel's activities in China would help their Chinese counterparts learn modern ways of conducting reconnaissance activities. The main target of the U.S. reconnaissance personnel is China. There has been a constant leak of confidential information out of China.

In order to prevent such information from leaking out, the Beijing authorities have taken measures to "heighten vigilance, and enforce strict security measures." However, these measures have remained ineffective. The cooperation between the Beijing authorities and the CIA not only will seriously damage China's prestige among the people of the world, but also bring direct losses to China's own security.

BARAKHTA ON PRC TRADE ADVANCES TO W. EUROPE

LD180834 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2226 GMT 17 July 82

[Text] Moscow, 18 July (TASS) -- Beijing's stance on questions of interstate and trade and economic relations bears witness to its invariable course towards strengthening its military-strategic partnership with imperialism, Boris Barakhta writes in PRAVDA today. He comments on the results of the journey by Beijing's emissaries to the countries of Western Europe.

The commentary points out that the Peking emissaries again outlined alluring prospects for stepping up trade, financial and technical cooperation in the capitals of the West European states.

Having cancelled the majority of contracts already concluded with Western companies in the years 1980-81, the author stresses, Beijing is clearly now striving to rehabilitate itself in the eyes of its Western trading partners and obtain their economic and financial support for its plans to speed up the creation of a powerful military-economic potential.

"At the same time, foreign commentators are drawing attention to the fact that Beijing is trying to hedge development of trade and economic relations with Western Europe with an array of political conditions, thus lending these links an anti-Soviet slant and coloration," writes the commentator.

In the West European capitals, Boris Barakhta sums up, in defiance of well-known facts, the Beijing emissaries endeavored to convince their interlocutors of the mythical "military superiority of the Soviet Union and the countries of the socialist community and reaffirmed the alleged 'necessity' of creating a 'united front for the struggle against hegemonism.' They were effectively placing themselves in solidarity with the Reagan administration's policy, which is directed towards heightening international tension."

PRC EMBASSY STAFF AT MOSCOW ANNIVERSARY SOIREE

PM080959 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jun 82 p 4

[TASS report: "Marking an Anniversary"]

[Text] On 29 June, the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society organized an evening celebrating the 55th anniversary of the Canton Commune in China. The function was held in Moscow's House of Friendship With Peoples of Foreign Countries.

The speakers at the function stressed that the Canton Commune was one of the most striking chapters in the history of the Chinese people's revolutionary struggle.

The function was attended by members of the central board and activists of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society, sinologists, members of the Moscow public and staff members of the PRC Embassy in Moscow.

MOSCOW MEETING MARKS NANCHANG ANNIVERSARY

PRC Ambassador Attends

LD131552 Moscow TASS in English 1449 GMT 13 Jul 82

[Text] Moscow 13 Jul (TASS) -- The Union of Soviet Friendship Societies and the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society held a meeting in Moscow today devoted to the 55th anniversary of the Nanchang uprising in China. It was stressed that the Nanchang uprising had been an illustrious chapter in the history of the revolutionary struggle of the Chinese people.

The meeting was attended by members of the central board and activists of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society, sinologists, representatives of Moscow public and officials of the PRC Embassy in the USSR with Ambassador Yang Shouzheng at their head.

Report Given

OW141510 Beijing XINHUA in English 1505 GMT 14 Jul 82

[Text] Moscow, July 13 (XINHUA) -- An evening party was held here today to mark the 55th anniversary of China's Nanchang uprising (August 1, 1927).

The meeting was organized by the Soviet Association of Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society.

Yuryev, member of the Central Council of the society and professor of Moscow University, made a report on the uprising.

Among those present on the occasion were Vice-Chairman of the Society Kaliyakin and Chinese Ambassador to the Soviet Union Yang Shouzheng.

MPR LEADERS RESPOND TO BREZHNEV, TIKHONOV

PM161505 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Jul 82 Morning Edition p 1

[Text] To Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium;

Comrade Nikolay Aleksandrovich Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Dear Comrades:

On behalf of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] Central Committee, the People's Great Hural Presidium and the Council of Ministers of the Mongolian People's Republic [MPR], on behalf of our country's working people and on our own account, we convey to you, the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers and the entire fraternal Soviet people profound gratitude for the warm greetings, cordial congratulations and good wishes on the 61st anniversary of the Mongolian People's Revolution.

We are pleased to point out that the 61st anniversary of the People's Revolution, which has been marked by new successes in developing the MPR's economy and culture, is being celebrated in our country under the flag of the further broadening and deepening of close all-round relations with the Soviet Union and other fraternal countries. The various measures we are implementing in 1982 in honor of the glorious jubilees of the Great October Socialist Revolution and the USSR's formation, as well as the great labor enthusiasm and political activeness with which the Mongolian people are approaching these portentous dates, are a graphic new expression of the MPR working people's devotion to tested Mongolian-Soviet friendship and the ideals of peace and socialism. Mongolia's communists and working people have sincere feelings of gratitude to the CPSU and the great Soviet people for their disinterested, multifaceted assistance and support in the cause of building a socialist society. The significance of this assistance grows constantly as the tasks of socialist creation which we are resolving grow more complex.

On the day of our national holiday, we assure you once again that our party and the MPR Government will continue to do everything in their power to steadily strengthen and develop Mongolian-Soviet fraternal relations and promote in every possible way the natural process of rapprochement and consolidation of our countries' peoples in the interests of further strengthening the unity and cohesion of the entire socialist community and in the name of the triumph of the great cause of socialism and communism.

Allow us wholeheartedly to wish you, dear comrades, and the fraternal Soviet people great new successes in implementing the tasks advanced by the 26th CPSU Congress of further developing communist building and in the struggle for peace and for mankind's deliverance from the threat of war.

[Signed] Yu. Tsedenbal, general secretary of the MPRP Central Committee and chairman of the MPR People's Great Hural Presidium;

J. Batmonh, chairman of the MPR Council of Ministers.

USTINOV GREETS MPR'S ABHIA ON REVOLUTION JUBILEE

PM190931 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Jul 82 p 1

[Text] To Col Gen Comrade J. Abhia, Mongolian defense minister, Ulaanbaatar.

Esteemed Comrade Minister:

On behalf of the USSR Armed Forces and on my own behalf, I send you and all Mongolian servicemen fraternal combat greetings and cordial congratulations on the 61st anniversary of the Mongolian People's Revolution.

Fraternal Mongolia's working people and servicemen, fulfilling the decisions of the 18th Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Congress, are greeting this date with new achievements in building a socialist society, improving the people's well-being and strengthening their motherland's defense capability. Soviet people and Army and Navy servicemen are confident that the combat cooperation between our peoples and armies will continue to reliably serve the interests of socialism and the safeguarding of peace and progress.

On your national holiday, I wish you, Comrade Minister, and all Mongolian servicemen new successes in resolving the responsible tasks facing the Mongolian People's Army.

With communist greetings.

[Signed] Marshal of the Soviet Union, D. Ustinov, USSR defense minister.

TASS ON JAPAN'S INCREASED MILITARY BUDGET

LD162210 Moscow TASS in English 2108 GMT 16 Jul 82

["Who Threatens Japan" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, Jul 16, TASS -- TASS political news analyst Boris Chekhonin writes:

The Japanese Government has decided to up by 7.34 percent the budget appropriations for military purposes in the next fiscal year over the year, to bring the spending up to 2,776,000,000 yen. Thus, Japan has approved the largest military budget after World War II. According to the Italian newspaper STAMPA, by April 1983, when the budget year starts, the sum will exceed 1 percent of the gross national product.

What is it that has served as a pretext for such a step? It is allegedly the "growing threat from the Soviet Union," as they are trying to convince the people of Japan. It is an old, threadbare lie. The JAPAN QUARTERLY points out that the threat to Japan emanates from the USA which would wish to make its ally force military preparations in order to include Japan into an American social strategy. It was precisely the United States that put forward, among other things, the so-called theory of shared responsibility whose substance boils down to stating that Japan's financial contribution to the arms race in the Pacific Ocean is insufficient. The final objective of this so-called theory is to make Japan shoulder a burden of defence similar to the one shouldered by the NATO countries. Besides, the "theory of shared responsibility" demands that the Japanese Government be subjected without any qualifications to the reckless plans of the Pentagon strategists in that part of the world.

In showing the falsehood of Washington's ploy about a "Soviet threat," the same JAPAN QUARTERLY wrote to say that there is absolutely no need to think that at present Japan is subjected to a nuclear threat on the part of the USSR. The journal says that Japan does not need the Japanese-American security treaty which in no way enhances its security.

To this statement, one can only add the following: As the Japanese armed forces get more and more involved in the American global strategy, the threat of a military catastrophe will begin to be suspended over the country in an increasingly real form, since Tokyo must be forced into becoming a participant in the adventurist, aggressive plans of the Pentagon, in addition to being deprived of the right to have any say in decision-making.

And one more thing: The country's rearmament, which places an additional burden on its economy, undermines Japanese exports and competitiveness of Japanese products in the international markets, and consequently, in addition to reduced spending on social needs, will mean a new burden for the Japanese people. And all this at a time when, according to official data, 40 percent of the Japanese already now can hardly make both ends meet. There is no need to say that Japan's remilitarization will deal a telling blow to its international prestige.

BREZHNEV CONGRATULATES NEW INDIAN PRESIDENT

LD171500 Moscow TASS in English 1432 GMT 17 Jul 82

[Text] Moscow July 17 TASS -- Leonid Brezhnev has sincerely congratulated Zail Zingh on his election as president of the Republic of India.

"I express the firm conviction," he said in a telegram, "that with your personal assistance the relations of traditional friendship and all-round cooperation between the Soviet Union and India, based on the solid foundation of the Soviet-Indian treaty of 1971, will continue to strengthen and develop for the good of the peoples of our countries, in the interests of enhancing peace in Asia and all over the world in the future as well."

Leonid Brezhnev wished Zail Singh good health and big successes in his activity in the high presidental post. He also conveyed the wishes of further progress and prosperity to the friendly Indian people.

INDIANS WORRIED ABOUT PRC MILITARY PREPARATIONS

PM161523 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Jul 82 p 5

[Correspondent V. Shirokov dispatch: "Hostile Preparations"]

[Text] Delhi, 12 Jul -- The Indian press has recently published a number of reports about the intensive military preparations being carried out by China in Tibet and other regions in direct proximity to India's borders.

These preparations include the construction of military airfields, roads, radar installations and missile launching sites. According to the Indian press, there are already nine air bases and 15 radar stations in operation in Tibet. Over 500,000 Chinese servicemen are billeted in military camps on Tibetan territory.

The newspaper PATRIOT writes, in this connection, that alarm is particularly caused by the deployment in Tibet of new missiles in addition to over 100 which various sources say are already established there. The Chinese base 320 km from Lhasa currently being modernized is being equipped with medium-range missiles.

The Indian press also notes that it is no mere chance that the stepping up of China's military preparations in Tibet coincides with Beijing's approval of the recent official inclusion in Pakistan's administrative structure of the Gilgit regions, Skardu and Hunza belonging to India. The Chinese Government has once more declared its "consistent support" for Islamabad's claims to the territory of Kashmir.

Indian political observers note that China's stance remains the same on the question of the Indian territories seized as a result of the perfidious attack in 1962. Beijing continues to publish maps on which considerable territories belonging to India are included in China. It has not gone unnoticed by Indian observers that China's military preparations in Tibet were going on even while talks on a peaceful solution to the border problems with India were in progress.

The Indian press has also drawn attention to the Chinese sides' viewpoint expressed in the newspaper RENMIN RIBAO immediately after the end of the recent Indian-Chinese talks in Delhi. "China," the newspaper asserted, "has never occupied any Indian territories and therefore there can be no talk of returning them."

Beijing's hegemonist ambitions remain completely in force, the well-known Indian diplomat T.N. Kaul writes. India cannot agree to Pakistan handing over to China "as a gift" several thousand square kilometers of Indian territory seized from India by force, he continues. India cannot tolerate China building the strategic military Karakorum highway, which crosses Indian territory illegally seized by Pakistan.

All this, T. N. Kaul concludes, leaves little hope of a rapid return by China of the illegally occupied Indian lands. Until this problem is resolved, the prospect for a real improvement in relations between India and China is improbable. We must be constantly vigilant even when bilateral talks are underway and trade and cultural ties are being maintained, Kaul appeals.

TADZHIK MINISTER ON TIES WITH AFGHANISTAN

GF141440 Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 13 Jul 82

[Text] Rauf Dadaboyev, the Tadzhik minister of education, has chaired a session of the Soviet-Afghan section of the Tadzhik Society for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries. Dadaboyev expressed his views during the meeting as follows:

Our cooperation with Afghanistan is gradually increasing. The Tadzhik SSR is helping its Afghan friends upgrade public education in that country. Numerous representatives of the public education sector of Afghanistan have been visiting our republic. They have acquainted themselves with the path along which our education is progressing. I have also visited Afghanistan and personally observed the (?direction in which the Afghan people are progressing) and the [word indistinct] they have with the Soviet people's life. Our republic is very interested in life in Afghanistan. This section of the society is working hard to (?strengthen relations between) our republics.

Insofar as we are concerned, the members of this department are supplying our Afghan friends with material on Tadzhik literature. We are also providing materials for exhibitions and films. Meanwhile, we regularly display in the Tadzhik SSR the glorious years in the life of the Afghan people.

It must also be noted that we are always happy to welcome Afghan representatives in the Tadzhik homeland. In the year that we are marking the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Union, we are making an effort to brief our Afghan friends in detail on the fraternal relations among the Soviet peoples and on the (?way) brotherhood and friendship have been established. In the fraternal family of Soviet peoples, the Tadzhik homeland has become a land of progress.

TASS NOTES SRV TROOP WITHDRAWAL FROM KAMPUCHEA

LD171340 Moscow TASS in English GMT 17 Jul 82

[Text] Phnom Penh July 17 TASS -- In keeping with accord reached by the Governments of People's Kampuchea the withdrawal of a certain part of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchean territory began today. Thousands of residents of Phnom Penh bid warm farewell to the soldiers of the Vietnamese People's Army.

This step is a manifestation of goodwill of three states of Indochina. This unilateral move was made in the hope that it would evoke a positive response of the Thai administration and lead to the restoration of peace and stability on the Kampuchean-Thai border. At the same time this step demonstrates that the situation in People's Kampuchea has stabilized, and that Pol Pot's bands entrenched in Thai territory have further weakened. Despite Chinese military aid they are unable to change the situation in Kampuchea.

PRAVDA Comment

LD190618 Moscow TASS in English 0608 GMT 19 Jul 82

["Important Contribution" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow July 19 TASS -- The withdrawal of a part of the Vietnamese military contingent from Kampuchean territory, from the northwestern regions of the People's Republic of Kampuchea adjacent to the Thai territory, was started a few days ago, Valerian Skvortsov writes in PRAVDA.

These steps were taken in pursuance of the initiatives addressed by the recent conference of the foreign ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the PRK and the People's Democratic Republic of Laos to members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) which includes, apart from Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines and Indonesia. The initiatives of the three countries of Indochina have clearly shown to public opinion in the region that they seek a real detente in the region, an effective and constructive dialogue, friendship and cooperation with their neighbors. As is known, Vietnam and Kampuchea will go on with the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops until it is completed if Pol Pot's gangs, which have found refuge in Thailand, are disarmed and pulled back from the Kampuchean frontiers.

The step taken by the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the People's Republic of Kampuchea indicates that the young republic which was proclaimed after the overthrow of the bloody Pol Pot clique has attained stability as regards its domestic situation and its international standing, the commentary says.

All this fully refutes the allegations of Beijing's and Washington's propaganda that the proposals of the three countries of Indochina, addressed to the ASEAN states, are a "bait." Realistically-minded politicians in ASEAN countries cannot fail to see that Vietnam and Kampuchea have made a concrete and important contribution to a positive development of the situation in the region.

People of good will, all those who prize peace, security national independence, good-neighbour relations and cooperation in South East Asia, the commentary says in conclusion, cannot but welcome this concrete manifestation of good will on the part of the SRV and the PRK. It would be hoped that Thailand and ASEAN states will duly appreciate the step taken by their neighbours and will positively respond to it.

REPORTAGE ON PZPR CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM

Jaruzelski Report

LD162038 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 16 Jul 82

[Text] PAP has reported that at a plenum of the PZPR Central Committee held in Warsaw, a report of the Central Committee Politburo on youth problems was delivered by Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee.

The speaker stressed the great significance attached by the workers' party to the country's younger generation. The party, he said, wishes to regard young people as an aware and responsible partner in effecting socialist social changes. In his assessment of the present generation of Polish youth, Comrade Jaruzelski called it a leading force of public (?order), of the regulation and democratization of life. The young people's critical approach and uncompromising stance must be employed against mismanagement, bureaucracy and other unhealthy social phenomena. In all useful initiatives young people can regard the party as a benevolent ally, the speaker noted.

Young people, Wojciech Jaruzelski continued, must elucidate clearly by what course the Polish ship is to sail; it cannot sail against the current of history. Responsibility for what happened in Poland is borne by those antisocialist extremists who devastated the minds of young people, who urged them toward confrontation and who are continuing today to pursue instigatory and subversive actions.

The speaker declared that the party seeks fresh forms of work with young people. He indicated that the party's leading role in the youth movement finds expression above all in the ideological orientation and active work of young party members in the ranks of the youth organizations, in the observance of the rights and obligations of young people. The speaker stressed that the PZPR advocates the indissoluble ideological and political unity of the youth movements.

Wojciech Jaruzelski stressed particularly that Poland can preserve its statehood, sovereignty and territorial integrity only by being a country of socialism.

Plenum Resolution

LD190912 Moscow TASS in English 0810 GMT 19 Jul 82

[Text] Warsaw 18 July [PAP] -- PUWP CC 9th plenum's resolution on youth -- The text of the resolution of the 9th plenum of the PUWP CC on tasks of work with youth was published. The resolution approves conclusions and assessments included in the report of the Political Bureau read at the plenum by First Secretary of the Central Committee General Wojciech Jaruzelski and acknowledges the government's programme to improve conditions for start in life by the young generation.

"[Quatation mark as received] The Central Committee addresses the whole young generation to take coresponsibility for the most important areas of the social and economic life of the country.

The Central Committee underscored the import of patriotic education of youth. It is necessary to inculcate in the young generation internationalist solidarity with forces of progress and freedom peace and socialism in the contemporary world.

The resolution commits the party organizations and authorities at different levels to create conditions favourable for increasing the participation of young people in organs of the state authorities, in all forms of self-government and in the patriotic movement of national rebirth.

The resolution stated that institutional guarantees for youth organizations were necessary.

The Central Committee recommended to set up a committee for youth attached to the Council of Ministers. The resolution also commited the PUWP Sejm deputies group to initiate legislative work to pass a law on youth.

Central Committee Changes

LD171332 Moscow TASS in English 1314 GMT 17 Jul 82

[Text] Warsaw, July 17 TASS -- According to the Polish PAP news agency, the ninth plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, upon discussing the report made by First Secretary of the PUWP Central Committee Wojciech Jaruzelski "On the Problems of Youth," passed a corresponding resolution.

The plenary meeting also passed a resolution on the work with letters of the working people addressed to party bodies. A report on the subject was made by Miroslaw Milewski, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the PUWP Central Committee.

The meeting examined organisational matters. Stanislaw Kalkus, and Marian Wozniak were elected members, and Stanislaw Bejger was elected alterate member of the Political Bureau of the PUWP Central Committee. Jan Glowczyk and Manfred Gorywoda were elected secretaries of the PUWP Central Committee.

The plenary meeting released members of the Political Bureau of the PUWP Central Committee, Hieronim Kubiak and Stafan Olszowski, and also Marian Wozniak from their duties as secretaries of the PUWP Central Committee. Jan Labecki was removed from the Political Bureau of the PUWP Central Committee.

First secretary of the PUWP Central Committee Wojciech Jaruzelski made a concluding speech at the meeting.

TASS REPORTS GUSTAV HUSAK ARRIVAL IN USSR

LD161644 Moscow TASS in English 1530 GMT 16 Jul 82

[Text] Moscow July 16 TASS -- Gustav Husak, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, president of Czechoslovakia, arrived in the Soviet Union today for rest at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee.

CPSU SENDS BCP CONDOLENCES ON LUKANOV DEATH

LD181822 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 18 Jul 82

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee has conveyed to the BCP Central Committee its deep condolences in connection with the death of Karlo Lukanov, a prominent political and public figure, member of the party Central Committee, and first depty chairman of the All-National Committee for Bulgarian-Soviet Friendship. The entire life and work of Karlo Lukanov, a veternan of the Bulgarian revolutionary movement and an active participant in the construction of Socialist Bulgaria, the telegram says, is an example of the union of true internationalism and of worthy service in the interests of the whole people.

RUSAKOV RECEIVES DEPARTING SFRY ENVOY

LD170112 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1830 GMT 16 Jul 82

[Text] Comrade Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, today received Yugoslav Ambassador Marko Orlandic in connection with his imminent departure for home. A talk took place in a comradely atmosphere. The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has awarded Marko Orlandic the Order of the Friendship of Peoples. This is in recognition of his active participation in the development of all-round relations between our countries.

SNEGOVSKIY ON FRENCH SECRET USSR CREDIT DEAL

LD171440 Moscow TASS in English 1422 GMT 17 Jul 82

["Lies" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Paris July 17 TASS -- By TASS correspondent V. Snegovskiy:

Vigorous protests have been expressed in France at the slanderous statement of a high-ranking American official who told newsmen in Washington that, when the government of Valery Giscard-D'Estaing had been in office, France and the Soviet Union had signed a "secret agreement" covering terms of French credits to the USSR. According to the same U.S. official, who asked not to be identified, it was precisely that circumstance that had weakened the United States' position at the Versailles summit meeting of the world's major developed capitalist countries.

An official spokesman of the French Ministry of External Relations had this to say on the score: "We consider it regrettable that an anonymous person, presented as a "responsible official", found it possible to make an extremely inaccurate statement."

On his part, a spokesman for the office of the former President D'Estaing, described the Pentagon official's allegations as "fantastic and irresponsible."

What is the reason for Washington's sudden attacks against France?

LE MONDE says that the reason behind the strange U.S. "exposure" should be sought exactly in the Versailles meeting which saw West European countries oppose the American policy of restricting exports to the USSR. France, just as other West European states, assumed quite a definite position on the issue, LE MONDE says. "It is diametrically opposed to Washington's stand. France intends to increase its deliveries to the USSR... and it is hard to imagine what a 'secret agreement' could add to this fundamental difference."

Another French paper, L'HUMANITE, points out that Washington is prepared to go to any length to hamper the building of the pipeline to carry gas from Siberia to Western Europe. The slanderous information circulated by the overseas official pursues an aim that is quite clear -- to pressurize France so that to make the French Government call financial cooperation with the Soviet Union in question. This fresh blow, which Reagan has dealt to France in an underhand way, makes perceptible the differences between Western Europe and the United States as regards the restrictions of exports to the Soviet Union, which surfaced at the meeting in Versailles. Then the leaders of West European countries made some concessions to Reagan. Today Washington seeks to achieve more.

The paltry trap which the United States is setting up for France, L'HUMANITE says in conclusion, is actually just another episode in the United States' trade war against Western Europe.

London July 17 TASS -- The newspaper FINANCIAL TIMES observes that a row has flared up between France and the United States over the granting of credits to the Soviet Union by Paris. The fresh quarrel, it says, is further straining the already deteriorating relations between the United States and France.

Another British paper, THE TIMES, also notes the worsening of relations between the United States and France. The French, it says, were angered by the Reagan administration's discriminatory steps against the trans-Siberian gas pipeline, the imposition by Washington of protectionist barriers in the way of West European steel exports to the United States, and other American moves. The paper says that the two countries have serious differences also in the approach to the Middle East problem. Thus, THE TIMES says, France was outraged by the U.S. veto at the Security Council last month on its proposal for a cease-fire in Lebanon.

KUDRIN ON SPAIN'S ENTRY INTO NATO ALLIANCE

LD170940 Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 16 Jul 82

[Text] On the 30th of May, Spain officially became the 16th member of NATO. The decision to join the alliance was taken contrary to the will of a vast majority of Spaniards. Some details now on the subject from our correspondent in Madrid, Igor Kudrin.

The governing party, the Democratic Center Union, did not risk [as heard] to hold a national referendum on Spain's NATO membership in the prior knowledge it wouldn't have received public support. An historic mistake has been made that will cost dearly in the future, says the leadership of the largest opposition force, the Socialist Workers Party. Now this is what really happened. NATO has (?immediately) told Spain to rearm itself fast and to modernize its air force and navy. Today, Spain faces the dilemma of buying 84 modern F-89 fighter bombers. Each aircraft costs $35.7 million. This has produced extensive outrage in that country, going through a severe economic crisis as it is. The haste with which the authorities would like to take out of the state budget a huge sum to be spent on rearmament has no justification, says the Socialist Party spokesman.

As opponents of Spain's entry into NATO predicted, membership in that alliance starts with rough pressure and commanding shouts from the Pentagon. What will happen then to the national sovereignty of Spain? Will the country's new allies ask for the opinion of Spaniards over what they would like to do about their army, about what they turn Spanish territory into? Spanish newspapers are asking these questions now, but the ruling party, racked with internal contradictions, is unable to supply a reasonable answer.

MOSCOW COMMENTS ON MILITARIZATION OF TURKEY

LD162320 Moscow in Turkish to Turkey 1830 GMT 16 Jul 82

[Unattributed commentary: "The U.S. Policy of Militarization and Turkey's Interests"]

[Excerpt] The AWACS electronic surveillance system will be installed on Turkish territory between 1982 and 1985 in order to mount surveillance of the Soviet Union. The basing of U.S. spy planes at airfields in the area of Konya, Diyarbakir, Van, and Kars in Turkey by the end of the current year is not a friendly [bic de dostca olmayan] act by Ankara toward the Soviet Union.

At the same time, Turkey's immense military expenditure is proving a considerable source of profits to American military establishments. Thus, on the one hand American strategists are dragging Turkey into their aggressive plans and, on the other hand American businessmen are cynically making dizzying profits from sales of arms and other materials to Turkey. All these are to Turkey's detriment. And it is impossible for this not to be contrary to Turkey's good-neighborly relations with the Soviet Union and other neighboring countries and to the Turkish people's national interests.

NURIYEV MEETS WITH AUSTRIAN BANK OFFICIALS

PM161341 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Jul 82 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Official Report"]

[Text] On 9 July Z.N. Nuriyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received H. Androsch, chairman of the board of Austria's Kreditanstalt-Bankverein Bank and chairman of the Union of Austrian Banks.

Participating in the talk for the Austrian side were W. Liedermann, Austrian ambassador to the USSR, and R. Schneider, member of the Kreditanstalt-Bankverein Board, and for the Soviet side, V.S. Alkhimov, chairman of the USSR Gosbank Board.

On the same day, V.F. Garbuzov, USSR minister of finance, received H. Androsch at his request and had a talk with him.

STATE DEPARTMENT REPORT ON ISRAEL DENOUNCED

LD171504 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 17 Jul 82

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Petr Fedorov and Georgiy Alekseyev]

[Text] The latest political show is being performed in Washington. The State Department has sent Congress a special report on the situation in Lebanon which admits the possibility of violations by Israel of the agreement it signed with the United States on the use of the U.S. weapons supplied to it for purely defensive purposes. Judging by the REUTER cable, the report is of a very general character. It does not even mention cluster bombs, which are being extensively used by Israeli forces to annihilate the Palestinian population. It was precisely on this issue that Congress demanded that an inquiry be held.

Moreover, the report says nothing about the possibility of countermeasures by the United States, whereas according to American laws, violators should be immediately denied weapons. Even several days before the appearance of this report, the New York TIMES was predicting that Washington was certainly not intending either to halt or to restrict military deliveries to Tel Aviv. This is no more than a political gesture to avoid totally appearing as a direct accomplice in Israel's aggression.

NONALIGNED COORDINATION BUREAU MEETS IN NICOSIA

LD162256 Moscow TASS in English 2140 GMT 16 JU1 82

[Text] Nicosia, July 16 TASS -- The participants in the extra-ordinary meeting of the Coordination Bureau of the non-aligned countries at the level of foreign ministers, which is under way in the capital of Cyprus, firmly denounced the Israeli aggression in Lebanon, stressed the need of urgent measures to have it ended and to give support to the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples fighting against the invaders. The delegations of 57 countries, a number of international organisations and the national liberation movements attend the meeting.

A group of delegations, including those of the Algerian People's Democratic Republic, Syria, Cuba, the Palestine Liberation Organisation, submitted a draft statement, which stresses the need of sweeping diplomatic, economic and other sanctions against Israel. The statement strongly denounces Israel's policy of genocide against the Lebanese and Palestinian civilians, points to the ominous role of the United States which renders all-round support to the aggressor.

President of the Republic of Cyprus Spiros Kiprianou emphasised at the meeting that any solution of the Middle East problem was impossible without the recognition of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to have a state of their own.

Communique Issued

LD180608 Moscow TASS in English 0600 GMT 18 Jul 82

[Text] Nicosia July 18 TASS -- The participants in the extraordinary session of the Coordinating Bureau of non-aligned countries at the level of foreign ministers strongly denounced Israel's criminal actions in Lebanon. The final communique of the session, which was attended by delegations from 57 countries and a number of international organisations and national liberation movements, stressed that Israel pursues a policy of genocide against the peoples of Lebanon and Palestine. This aggression of Tel Aviv, the document notes, had become possible thanks to the massive military, financial and economic aid given to Israel, in particular, by the United States.

The participants in the session demanded that Israel lift the blockade of Beirut, strictly observe the ceasefire agreement and immediately and unconditionally withdraw its troops from Lebanese territory.

The final communique also urges the U.N. to immediately get down, under an agreement with the Lebanese Government, to setting up an interim U.N. peace keeping force in Lebanon and also reconvene the special session of the U.N. General Assembly on the Palestinian problem. The participants in the session demand that the U.N. Security Council impose compulsory sanctions against Israel, effective till Tel Aviv complies in full with the decisions and resolutions of the U.N. on the Palestinian problem, the communique says. The document also appeals to all the governments to step up aid to the victims of the Israeli aggression in Lebanon.

The session passed the decision to set up an inter-ministerial committee with the task of closely following the developments affecting the Arab people of Palestine and their representative, the Palestine Liberation Organization, particularly in Lebanon.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA: SYRIAN LOSSES INFLATED

LD180852 Moscow TASS in English 0830 GMT 18 Jul 82

[Text] Moscow July 18 TASS -- The Israeli-U.S. plan for the swift rout of the armed forces of the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Syrian troops staying in Lebanon by decision of the Arab League and the Lebanese Government has failed. No blitzkrieg has been carried out, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA writes today.

In the course of the invasion, on which, according to Tel Aviv's official figures, the huge sum of 2,500 million dollars (10 per cent of the country's GNP) has been spent, the newspaper says, the Israeli forces have come against the stubborn resistance of the Palestinians and Syrians and suffered tangible losses. Some Western observers believe that Israel's losses in the course of their aggression against Lebanon exceed the losses suffered by it during its treacherous attack on Arab countries in 1967. Attention is also drawn to the declining morale of Israeli troops. Acts of desertion have become more frequent.

Commenting on the dispatches of Western news agencies deliberately inflating the losses of Syrian troops with emphasis on the technology supplied to Syria under Soviet-Syrian agreements, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA supplies figures testifying to the quality of Soviet-made arms and their capabilities, and also to the fact that the Syrian personnel have demonstrated proper mastery of those arms.

"Repelling the aggressor's attack, the Syrian troops, using Soviet-made weapons and materiel, have inflicted considerable losses on the Israeli forces," the newspaper writes. "Altogether 120 Israeli tanks and armoured personnel carriers and several air defence missile batteries have been destroyed and 67 Israeli aircraft, including modern U.S.-made F-15 and F-16 fighters, downed. Israeli air attacks on Syrian positions in violation of the ceasefire agreement have been successfully repulsed with the help of Soviet-made missiles."

AID FOR PALESTINIANS, LEBANESE ARRIVES IN SYRIA

LD190734 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0700 GMT 19 Jul 82

[Text] An Aeroflot aircraft carrying the latest shipment of medicines and dressings has landed at Damascus international airport. The cargo on board has been sent as a gift from Soviet trade unions to Palestinian and Lebanese working people. Representatives of the international confederation of Arab trade unions, the federation of Palestinian trade unions and the Palestinian Red Crescent met the special flight from Moscow and expressed their gratitude to the Soviet public for their solidarity with and support for the people of Palestine and Lebanon.

IRAN-IRAQ WAR SHOWS NEED FOR REGIONAL UNITY

NC180540 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 16 Jul 82

[Igor Sheftunov commentary]

[Text] Last week the war between Iran and Iraq, which in many ways was instigated 22 months ago by the United States of America, escalated once again. Referring to the recent increase in tension in the Persian Gulf, a White House spokesman said: We will be thinking of the security of our friends and we will take the necessary steps.

One can easily imagine what these necessary steps will be that Washington wants to take so quickly, allegedly to strengthen the bases of security and peace. For a long time now, the fleet of U.S. warships equipped with nuclear weapons has been stationed in the Persian Gulf. The United States is building new military bases in this region and is stationing the so-called Rapid Deployment Force, which is actually a hegemonistic corps, on them. These steps can only escalate tension, because one cannot put out a fire with oil.

Meanwhile, the U.S. fleet is being drawn to the eastern Mediterranean where Washington, with the assistance of Tel Aviv, has sparked off the fifth Arab-Israeli war. Here, too, the U.S. administration presents its steps as "attention to peace and security" while in fact the Pentagon generals are flagrantly trying to place the nations of the Near and Middle East in a vise by exerting greater military pressure, thus imposing their will by force and establishing their domination over this extremely oil-rich and strategic area.

Hoping to weaken the reaction of nations to the implementation of its hegemonistic plans, Washington attaches great importance to the setting of the governments of southwest Asia against each other. It was because of this that the United States instigated the Iran-Iraq war 22 months ago while verbally supporting a solution to this conflict.

The new escalation of the war is a source of pleasure for Washington, and this feeling is not very well hidden. The bourgeois press in the United States of America and in other imperialist countries is calculating how many soldiers Iran and Iraq can send to the fronts for fratricide and what number will be destroyed. Also, the press foresees the possibility of the evacuation and destruction of a considerable area on both sides as a result of the intensification of the war. The imperialist press writes with a tone which is not devoid of pleasure that the 22-month old Iran-Iraq war has greatly harmed both countries' economic strength and has destroyed their financial bases. In imperialist quarters of the West and in pro-imperialist quarters of the Near and Middle East there is widespread hope that the war will once again distract Iran and Iraq from solving pressing problems such as the consolidation of the bases of the national economy and the annihilation of economic backwardness. Overthrown monarchist forces in Iran which hope that problems stemming from the war will help them to revive a pro-imperialist regime in the country have attached their hopes to the escalation of these problems and of others. Washington and Tel Aviv are especially happy that, with the beginning of the Iran-Iraq conflict, both countries can be prevented from persistent struggles against imperialist and Zionist instigations in the Near and Middle East.

In addition to greatly aggravating relations between the hostile countries, the Iran-Iraq war has also aggravated relations between many other countries -- something which is extremely necessary for those who have been preparing to foment a fifth Arab-Israeli war for a long time. Of course it is clear that neither the Israeli aggressor nor its U.S. mentor expected to witness such strong resistance by the PLO and by the national patriotic forces of Lebanon and Syria which, relying on Soviet support, are inflicting perceptible blows on the aggressors and are destroying Israel's military forces and plans.

The United States and Israel, which have involved themselves in the new adventurism, fear the unity of anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist forces more than anyone else, and it is not without reason that the New York TIMES, expressing its joy on the rekindling of the Iran-Iraq war, wrote that the solution of this military conflict will directly threaten Israel.

Jerusalem Day, the day of struggle with the Israeli aggressor and its U.S. associate, is being observed in Iran today. Anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist forces of the Near and Middle East should unite to achieve success in this struggle. Undoubtedly, the termination of the war between Iran and Iraq will play an important role in achieving this unity and victory over the common enemy.

DEVELOPMENTS IN IRAN-IRAQ CONFLICT REPORTED

LD171356 Moscow TASS in English 1146 GMT 17 Jul 82

[Text] Baghdad, July 17 TASS -- A communique issued by the high military command of Iraw says that in yesterday's fighting 264 Iranian troops were killed. The Iranian forces that have crossed into Iraq have been either destroyed or thrown back, the Iraqi News Agency INA reports. According to Iraqi figures, since the moment Iranians crossed Iraq's frontier upwards of 6,000 Iranian servicemen have been killed.

Tehran July 17 TASS -- According to the Iranian News Agency IRNA, Iranian troops fighting in Iraqi territory yesterday repulsed a major enemy counter-attack. Iraq lost 9 tanks in the fighting to the north of Basra. Iranian forces also contained the [words indistinct].

Belgrade July 17 TASS -- Speaking at a press conference here, the United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar said that the United Nations and its General Secretariat were making efforts to settle the Iranian-Iraqi conflict. He added it, however, would be naive to expect a settlement shortly. Recalling that Iran rejected the United Nations Security Council resolution on the cessation of the hostilities, the United Nations secretary general said at the same time that he maintained permanent contact with the sides (?anyway) and was going to resume his mediation efforts.

Varying Claims

LD181248 Moscow TASS in English 1140 GMT 18 Jul 82

[Text] Baghdad, July 19 TASS -- The Iraqi troops have repulsed another attack launched by the Iranians in the direction of Basra. A communique of the high military command of Iraq reports that "the enemy has suffered heavy losses in manpower and materiel." Altogether 550 Iranian prisoners of war have been taken.

Tehran July 18 TASS -- A statement of the central headquarters of the corps of "Guards of the Islamic Revolution" and the joint headquarters of the Armed Forces of Iran says that the Iranian troops have launched an offensive operation against Iraq and that 184 tanks, armoured personnel carriers, trucks and other vehicles of the enemy have been destroyed.

IRAQI ENVOY SPEAKS ON MOSCOW TELEVISION

LD171712 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1300 GMT 17 Jul 82

[Speech by Fadil al-'Izzawi, Iraq's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Soviet Union, given in Moscow to mark Iraq's Republic Day; Al-'Izzawi speaks in Arabic with superimposed Russian translation -- live or recorded]

[Text] I greet you, dear friends. Today is the 14th anniversary of our country's revolution, which was successfully accomplished under the leadership of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party. We are commemorating at the same time the third anniversary of the day Saddam Husayn, the leader of our party and state, acceded to the presidency.

In recent years the Iraqi people have made great changes in their political, economic and cultural affairs; these changes have implications that reach beyond our country. The revolution has achieved outstanding successes in the struggle against the forces of imperialism, Zionism and reaction. Those forces brought political, economic and military pressure to bear on our country. They were incapable of understanding that our revolution differs from many political processes in Third World countries in that it is based on progressive phenomena and that it draws on the people at large. It is the people at large who implement the revolution's program and defend its achievements in all areas of life. Despite all of the ill-intentioned encroachments on our country and attempts to force it to change its revolutionary course, we have triumphed. We triumphed thanks to the wisdom of the political leadership headed by Saddam Husayn and thanks to the cohesion and support of the popular masses in defending their patriotic, progressive and socialist revolution.

The Government of Iraq is pursuing a principled and consistent policy in establishing comprehensive ties with various countries, a policy which is based on mutual respect and mutually advantageous cooperation. We place the greatest emphasis in this on those states' attitudes to the Palestinian question, which is the most important question in the Arab East. This position has earned Iraq recognition among the developing and nonaligned countries. Further evidence of this is the fact that the seventh conference of the nonaligned countries' heads of state and government, scheduled for this September, will be held in our capital city, Baghdad.

In compliance with the principles of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party, immediately after the triumph of the revolution our country established the best of relations with the socialist community headed by the Soviet Union. Soviet-Iraqi relations are enshrined in the friendship and cooperation treaty between our two countries, the 10th anniversary of which we commemorated this 9 April. Time has shown that our relations in all areas of life are developing successfully to the benefit of the peoples of these two friendly countries. Taking advantage of this opportunity, I wish to emphasize once more that we greatly appreciate the Soviet Union's attitude in expressing support for the peoples' struggle for their independence, freedom and dignity; its constant and growing support for the struggle of the Arab people of Palestine; and its assistance to countries which are fighting to develop their national economies and trying to make up for their delay and join in the difficult process of life.

On behalf of the government and people of Iraq, permit me to express our great appreciation for the Soviet Union's efforts directed at strengthening peace on earth and preventing the threat of nuclear war. Long live the friendship between Iraq and the Soviet Union! Long live Arab-Soviet friendship!

USSR-IRANIAN AGREEMENT ON TRAINING CENTERS

NC180009 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 16 Jul 82

[Unattributed talk]

[Text] Dear listeners, 15 years have passed since the conclusion of the agreement between Iran and the Soviet Union on organizing a training center in Arak, with the capacity for 400 students. This important document led to the expansion and development of cooperation betweeen Iran and the Soviet Union in the training of Iranian national cadres.

The Soviet Union, which has acquired great experience, successfully helps in the training of national cadres from many liberated countries. Among them are Algeria, Afghanistan, Syria India, Ethiopia, Turkey and others wherein Soviet assistance helps train 850,000 engineers, technicians and specialized workers in 39 specialized schools of higher and secondary education.

Cooperation with Iran in training national cadres started in the middle of 1960 when an agreement on the establishment of several education centers in various Iranian cities was signed.

The Arak machinery plant training center is one of these centers. In 1968, with Soviet technical assistance and cooperation, centers for training steel forgery workers and specialized workers in the field of construction in Isfahan and a center for mining workers in Kerman began operations.

Under the Soviet-Iranian agreements on technical and vocational facilities, in 1970 the Soviet Union extended a loan with extremely favorable terms for the organization and expansion of technical training centers at Iran's discretion. Soviet organizations exported the necessary facilities to Iran and sent its experts to assemble these facilities. Four technical, mining, construction and irrigation training centers are among the units set up on the basis of this cooperation. The expansion of the technical and electronic training center and the building of a technical base next to the Vanak mechnical plant was intended.

There are industrial training centers in Hamadan, Zanjan, Qom and Reay, a construction center in Tehran, a training center for mining in Kerman and a center for training in the field of irrigation in Fasa. These centers, which can train 400 to 500 students, were commissioned in 1974 and 1975. Two years later, construction on the training center for coal extraction in Kerman for 500 students was completed. Soviet organizations also delivered the necessary equipment and participated in the organizing of dozens of training centers with an approximate capacity of 1,200 students through Iran's Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs. These centers are dispersed throughout the country and are in Semnan, Kerman, Shahrud, Birjand, Kashan, Khorramabad, Zanjan, Jahrom, Abadeh and Sabzevar.

We see, therefore, that during the past years the Soviet Union has helped Iran in setting up more than 20 various technical and vocational training centers in which 6,500 students can study. It has been said that these centers are among the country's best. The Soviet Union also accepts Iranians for training in Soviet industrial associations and has thus extended its assistance to Iran. The training of national cadres is one of the forms of cooperation between our countries which has a great future. Extensive possibilities exist for the expansion of cooperation in organizing and equipping technical vocational centers for the training of specialized Iranian workers, technicians and skilled workers. Soviet organizations are prepared to extend all the necessary technical assistance on the basis of equal rights and mutual benefits to the people of our neighbor and friend Iran.

IRRIGATION COOPERATION PROJECTS WITH IRAQ

LD172222 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 17 Jul 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The Iraqi people are currently holding festivities to celebrate Iraq's independence and the start of important reforms -- especially in the sphere of water resources as they are a basic factor in developing the Republic of Iraq's agriculture. A large group of Soviet irrigation engineering experts was sent to Iraq [following the revolution] to study the problems connected with using the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers to irrigate barren land. The cooperation of Soviet and Iraqi irrigation establishments has continued to develop since then, and a number of huge irrigation structures have been built -- all of which are extremely important.

The (Ath-Tharthar) -- Tigris Canal is currently being constructured with Soviet aid, as is the Fallujah Dam on the Euphrates. The dam will irrigate more than 60,000 hectares of land. Soviet irrigation engineering specialists have also been providing technical aid in the digging of the Kirkuk-(Agnab) Canal in northern Iraq. This canal will make it possible to irrigate barren land on an area up to 200,000 hectares.

A large group of Soviet socialists is contributing to the construction of Al-Hadithah Dam on the Euphrates which will make it possible to irrigate hundreds of thousands of hectares of land in the Euphrates basin and to supply electricity to towns and residential areas near the dam.

Al-Hadithah reservoir will hold more than 4 billion cubic meters of water. The power station will have a capacity of more than 500 megawatts. The Soviet experts' overall plan for the exploitation of the water and soil resources has been submitted to the Iraqi Irrigation Ministry. The Soviet agricultural irrigation establishments, which have long experience in digging canals and irrigation systems and in reclaiming barren land, are constantly benefiting and assisting the friendly Iraqi people with their experience.

RESULTS OF SOVIET AAPSO COMMITTEE PLENUM

GF181940 Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 17 Jul 82

[Unattributed commentary: "Solidarity With People of Palestine and Lebanon"]

[Text] The Presidium of the Soviet AAPSO committee has held its plenum in Moscow. The meeting was attended by representatives of populist organizations and writers and scholars from all Soviet republics. Speaking at the plenum, Mirza Ibragimov, chairman of the Soviet committee of the AAPSO strongly criticized the Begin government's aggressive and terrorist policy against the peoples of Palestine and Lebanon. He said: Mass rallies and demonstrations dedicated to the heroic struggle of the peoples of Palestine and Lebanon against Israel's aggression are being organized in the friendly countries of the AAPSO committees. Workers, scholars, kholkhoz workers, writers, doctors, teachers and students are condemning the savage policy pursued by Israeli militarists against Lebanon.

Ibragimov also added that the bloody aggression in Lebanon began with Washington's participation in the affair. In fact, Israel's aggression against Lebanon has been described as the most savage crime against peace and humanity.

Meanwhile, other members of the Soviet committee who also addressed the plenum reminded that Washington continues its preparations for a nuclear war. Apart from this, Washington is also contributing toward creation of tensions in other parts of the world. In fact, Washington is creating centers of tension through its influence over large parts of the world. Washington is claiming that numerous sectors of the world are within the vital security zone of the United States. Meanwhile, Israeli politicians, who are the short-sighted obedient instruments of U.S. imperialists, are forcing the Israeli people to remain opposed to the Arab peoples for a long time to come. However, this state of affairs is attracting the rage of the people of the world. The demand that Israel should stop [words indistinct], withdraw its forces from Lebanon and respect Lebanon's independence and territorial integrity and the inalienable rights of the Palestinians continues to be voiced in many languages.

(?The participants in the plenum also stressed) that the just struggle waged by the Palestinians under the Palestine Liberation Organization headed by its famour leader cannot be defeated. The determination and heroism displayed in the struggle the Palestinians and the Lebanese people are currently waging against the Israeli aggressors are (?inspiring hope) in the world peoples.

The plenum of the Presidium of the Soviet AAPSO committee approved a letter addressed to Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, and Walid Junblatt, chairman of the central political committee of the national and patriotic forces of Lebanon [title as heard]. The letter states: We rest assured that the heroism and unity of the Palestinian and Lebanese patriots will destroy the (?malicious) plans drawn up by the enemies of the Arab peoples. [passage indistinct]

The plenum also expressed full support for the call for an international meeting to expose the crimes committed in Lebanon by the Israeli aggressors and heard a proposal for the establishment of a (?committee) to facilitate AAPSO activities within the framework of relations with other populist organizations.

IZVESTIYA ON U.S ROLE IN NAMIBIAN QUESTION

PM161507 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Jul 82 Morning Edition p 5

[A. Nikanorov article: "Namibia: Blackmail and Aggression"]

[Text] One characteristic detail has recently been attracting attention in the reports on the Namibian problem: the clearly exaggerated, one may even say ostentatious, optimism of the Western press. Talks are proceeding successfully, it is said; an agreement is about to to be signed. Outdoing them all, the newssheet DIE REPUBLIKEIN S.W.A. from Windhoek, Namibia's administrative center, fired straight from the hip: "The countries participating in the talks have agreed that the Cuban forces should be withdrawn from Angola." This "sensation" was taken up by AFP, which, for greater plausibility, called DIE REPUBLIKEIN S.W.A. pro-government, quite untroubled by the fact that the government thrown together by the racists in Windhoek has not been recognized by anyone apart from South Africa.

In deliberately stressing the progress allegedly achieved, the Western powers, primarily the United States, are pursuing provocative aims. By means of disinformation, they are striving to set the independent African countries against the "Frontline" States, to drive a wedge in the latter's ranks and, of course, to isolate the South West Africa People's Organization [SWAPO], recognized by the world public as the Namibian people's only legitimate and authoritative representative. This tactic is not new and has been used repeatedly to delay a fair settlement of the Namibian problem. But this tactic is now acquiring special significance. Washington and Pretoria have "linked" the resolution of the Namibian problem to the withdrawal of the Cuban forces from Angola. And they have not simply "linked" them, they have raised this demand to an ultimatum. They regard a refusal to satisfy it as an "unwillingness" to resolve the Namibian problem. And if SWAPO and its allies are intractable, South Africa and the West reserve themselves the choice of other methods. It is not hard to guess which methods if you look at Lebanon.

Tel Aviv is illegally occupying Arab lands. Pretoria is illegally occupying Namibia. The Israeli Zionists are striving to destroy the PLO; for South Africa's racists it is the SWAPO patriots. The Israeli military is flirting with the ultrareactionary Haddad grouping in an attempt to dismember Lebanon and create a buffer zone in the south of the country. The racist special services have bought out J. Savimbi, ringleader of the separatist National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] gang, and with his help are trying to create a similar buffer zone in southern Angola. Tel Aviv has committed bandit aggression against Lebanon. For nearly 1 year now, Pretoria's soldiers have not left Angola's Cunene Province, and they are now concentrating their forces on the border with Angola.

South African Prime Minister Pieter Botha and his namesake occupying the post of foreign minister have stated that no settlement plan and no proposal regarding Namibia can be implemented until all Cuban forces are withdrawn from Angola. Of course, the apartheid regime's ringleaders would not dare to interfere so brazenly in a sovereign state's internal affairs without the comprehensive support they are receiving from U.S. imperialism. And here is an other common and determining feature of the crisis situations in the African Continent south and north. Both Bothas have now begun talking as loudly as this becasue, as the Paris monthly LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE attests, "President Reagan's strategy toward Namibia was set out in a U.S. State Department document as far back as 7 February 1981. It is clear from this document that the settlement of the Namibian problem is linked to the evacuation of the Cuban servicemen from Angola and the participation of J. Savimbi's UNITA grouping in the Angolan Government.

John Stockwell, leader of CIA subversive activity in Angola, who at one time wrote a book about this called "In Search of the Enemy" stated recently in an interview with an AFRIQUE-ASIA correspondent: "Washington has never actually abandoned UNITA.

"In 1976, when it had already become impossible to support UNITA openly, Savimbi was told that he should continue to fight and that links would be openly resotored as soon as there was a political change in the United States."

Political change occurred with the arrival of the new administration in the White House. Its head declared South Africa a "friendly power," which immediately caused a hardening of Pretoria's stance on the settlement of the Namibia crisis and urged it on to new criminal actions against neighboring states. All of this enabled the Chicago TRIBUNE to write: "The clear outlines of Reagan's policy toward South Africa are emerging, and the overall picture looks even more loathsome than it appeared at first to apartheid's opponents. It is a question of a U.S. commitment -- economic, political, diplomatic and military -- to support the minority in South Africa, which comprises less than 20 percent of the population." "Nothing demonstrates the amorality of political hypocrisy of this kind more clearly," the U.S. newspaper continued, "than the U.S. vote in the UN Security Council in August last year. South Africa is occupying Namibia illegally, is making deep incursions into Angolan territory, razing villages and killing people there. The United States has refused to condemn such actions, which are criminal by all the norms of international law."

The veto placed then by U.S. permanent UN representative J. Kirkpatrick on the draft resolution condemning Pretoria's aggression against Angola and the demand for the swift withdrawal of South African forces from the occupied lands finally freed the hands of the apartheid regime's ringleaders. They have waged a total campaign of destabilizing the progressive regimes in southern Africa. Savimbi has become a permanent guest in Pretoria, which honors him as leader of a "provisional government." The so-called National Resistance Movement bandit grouping has been activated in Mozambique. A genuine cold war accompanied by armed provocation has been launched against Zimbabwe. A coup d'etat by mercenaries has been attempted in the Seychelles.

Nor is there anything surprising in the fact that in this atmosphere the United States has tried to carry the Namibia crisis talks over into the sphere of activity of the so-called contact group of five Western countries -- the United States, Britain, the FRG, France and Canada -- as though there were no UN Security Council Resolution 435 providing for the withdrawal of South Africa's occupation forces from Namibian territory and the holding of elections there under international control; as though it were not SWAPO, which has been waging the struggle for freedom for 15 years, but the puppets and yes-men from Windhoek who have already sat at the negotiating table, who represent the Namibian people; as though ultimately it were not the Namibian people but Washington or London that must determine how and with whom the future is to be built. The Lagos newspaper NEW NIGERIAN called the "contact group's" actions hypocritical. The West's plan is to prevent the country's people from achieving genuine independence. Whenever matters approach the adoption of a decision on the present question, South Africa and its Western supporters, particularly the United States, put forward all kinds of conditions to slow down this process. Their intention to link the question of granting Namibia independence with the Cuban forces' withdrawal from Angola is now absurd, the newspaper continues.

A leaflet entitled REPUBLIKEIN began circulating its disinformation literally a few hours after the publication in Luanda of the final communique of the 10th Plenum of the Popular Liberation Movement of Angola-Party of Labor [MPLA-PT]. It said: "The MPLA-PT Central Committee points out that, with South Africa's help, the most aggressive imperialist circles are trying to utilize the situation of the expected a Namibian settlement for blackmail purposes. They are making the withdrawal of the Cuban forces from Angola the condition for the simultaneous withdrawal of the South African occupation forces from Namibia.

"The South African racists are again trying to ignore the fact that the Cuban forces' presence in Angola was and remains a consequence of South Africa's broad-scale aggression against Angola in 1975 and of subsequent aggression and incursions into Angola by the South African Army, which at present is occupying part of Cunene Province and violating the Angolan border every day. The imperialists and South Africa -- their instrument of aggression -- are cynically trying to place the responsibility for the resolution of the Namibian problem on the Angolan Government by linking that problem with the withdrawal of the Cuban forces."

Nevertheless, after the U.S.-South African talks held recently in an atmosphere of strict secrecy, a State Department spokesman confirmed the ultimatum delivered to Luanda. Many observers have drawn attention to the fact that the Pretoria delegation included generals (Geldenkhyus) and Lloyd, who participated in repression in Namibia and armed actions against Angola. All of this makes it possible to presuppose that new aggressive and subversive plans are being nurtured in southern Africa. The South African racists, laying claim to the role of policeman in this region, have virtually obtained their overseas patrons' blessing for banditry.

The world is indignant at Tel Aviv's bandit action against Lebanon. Even the closest allies of Washington, which as ever has sided with the aggressor, have condemned its position. It seems that in the adventure now being prepared in southern Africa, the United States will also prove to be isolated with South Africa. "It seems that the U.S. alarm over the Cubans is not shared by Britain, West Germany, France or Canada," AP has stressed. The six African countries supporting the SWAPO partisan movement, the agency continued, assert that this question is only of concern to the Angolan Government. The proponents of the "new African policy" in Washington would do well to heed this opinion.

BREZHNEV, DJIBOUTI PRESIDENT EXCHANGE GREETINGS

LD162156 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1750 GMT 16 Jul 82

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev has sent Hassan Gouled Aptidon, president of the Republic of Djibouti, a telegram of congratulations in connection with that country's national holiday, the fifth anniversary of the proclamation of independence.

In his reply telegram, the president of the republic expressed his gratitude for the congratulations. The telegrams express confidence that the friendly relations established between the USSR and Djibouti will continue to develop for the benefit of the peoples of the two countries, in the name of strengthening peace on earth.

BRIEFS

FRIENDSHIP AGREEMENT WITH ETHIOPIA -- An agreement was signed in Moscow on 15 July between the Soviet-Ethiopian Friendship Society and the Ethiopian-Soviet Friendship and Solidarity Committee. Nikolay Vasiliyev, president of the Soviet-Ethiopian Friendship Society and USSR minister of land reclamation and water resources, signed the agreement on behalf of the USSR, while Yusuf Ahmed, chairman of the Ethiopian-Soviet Friendship and Solidarity Committee and Ethiopian minister of communications and transport, signed for Ethiopia. Under the agreement, the peoples of the two countries will observe each other's national and historic days, and there will be cultural exchanges and exchanges of visits by delegations. In addition, cultural and film festivals will be organized and talks will be held at various levels in both the USSR and Ethiopia. [Text] [Moscow in Amharic to Ethiopia 1530 GMT 16 Jul 82 EA/LD]

BREZHNEV, TIKHONOV GREET NICARAGUAN LEADERS

LD181444 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1300 GMT 18 Jul 82

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and Nikolay Aleksandrovich Tikhonov have sent the national leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], the guiding council of the Government of National Reconstruction and the State Council of the Republic of Nicaragua a telegram of greetings on the occasion of the third anniversary of the revolution in that country.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1500 GMT on 18 July adds the following paragraph: On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers, and of the whole Soviet people, the message says, we send you and the whole Nicaraguan people warm greetings]

Under the guidance of the FSLN, the telegram says, the Nicaraguan people are confidently progressing along the path of independent development and are achieving new successes in restoring and strengthening the economy, constructing their life on a truly democratic basis and defending revolutionary gains. The peace-loving foreign policy of Nicaragua, which consistently supports reduction of international tension, equal and just relations between states and the right of every people freely to determine its fate, and opposes racism and neocolonialism and all forms of imperialist oppression and diktat, is gaining authority.

The message stresses that the hostile campaign against Nicaragua that has been unleashed by certain circles is meeting with the indignation of the Soviet people and of all progressive and peace-loving forces. The relations of friendship and cooperation that have formed between our countries, which correspond to the interests of the peoples of the Soviet Union and Nicaragua and the cause of consolidating peace, evoke profound satisfaction. The recent Soviet-Nicaraguan talks, held at the highest level, were an important contribution to the development of those relations.

Comrades Brezhnev and Tikhonov wished the heroic Nicaraguan people fresh successes in resolving the creative tasks of the Sandinist Revolution and in efforts to defend the country's sovereignty and independence.

NICARAGUAN DEFENSE MINISTER ON COUNTERREVOLUTION

LD161127 Moscow TASS in English 0712 GMT 16 Jul 82

[Text] Managua July 16 TASS -- TASS correspondent Sergei Gorbunov reports:

Big counter-revolutionary forces have thrust into Nicaragua from Honduras. They were trained under American military "advisers", CIA instructors and Honduran Army officers. This was disclosed by Humberto Ortega, minister of national defence of the republic.

These are not just Somoza gangs, he said on Thursday at a ceremony at which officers, cadets of the Carlos Aguero military school in Managua were promoted to new ranks. Speaking of the counter-revolutionary formations that penetrated into the territory of Nicaragua, the minister said that these formations have the structure and armament of regular troops with bases and airfields in Honduras. One of such groupings is now surrounded by the troops of the Sandinist People's Army in the north of the country on its Atlantic coast. During bitter fighting which has been going on since July 4, over 60 counter-revolutionaries have been destroyed. About 40 soldiers, officers and reservists of the Sandinist People's Army lost their lives while defending the revolutionary republic.

The minister said that a further aggravation of the situation in the border districts is likely within the next few months. He expressed confidence that the armed forces and all the people of the republic will effectively repel the interventionist forces.

The imperialist aggression against Nicaragua has actually been started, Louis Carrion, first deputy minister of the interior of Nicaragua, said in an interview with the newspaper BARRICADA.

The counter-revolutionary formations that have thrust into Nicaragua, he said, are entrenching themselves in mountainous districts in the hope of using them as staging ground for seizing a part of Nicaraguan territory. The counter-revolutionaries are planning subsequently to establish there their own "government" and to secure "recognition" of this "government" by certain states.

There has also been a sharp increase lately in the number of espionage flights over Nicaragua, Louis Carrion said.

Take-off and landing sites are being hurriedly constructed in Honduras along the Nicaraguan frontiers for helicopters which may be used for airlifting big military formations into Nicaragua. The counter-revolutionaries are supplied with arms by the United States through the mediation of the Honduran military.

The interventionist forces, said the first deputy minister, consist of former Somoza troops and other counter-revolutionary elements as well as Chilean and other mercenaries. American military "advisers" and Honduran officers have taken upon themselves the preparation of counter-revolutionary operations.

The Nicaraguan people, Louis Carrion said, are determined to repel the armed aggression of American imperialism which uses the counter-revolutionary army it established as an instrument. We shall fight the enemy till we win a full victory, he said.

ARGENTINE-SOVIET MEETING ON MARITIME SHIPPING

WA151530 Moscow YODNYY TRANSPORT in Russian 17 Jun 82 p 3

[Yu. Kerner report]

[Text] A few days ago, the first Soviet-Argentine advisory meeting on maritime shipping was held in Moscow, convened in accordance with Article 12 of the agreement between the Governments of the USSR and the Argentine Republic of 24 August 1974, which went into effect 31 March 1981.

The Argentine delegation was led by Victor S. Babino, national director for maritime policy in the Secretariat of Maritime Interests, and the Soviet delegation by V.M. Nikolaychuk, deputy minister of the maritime fleet.

In the course of the meeting, which was held in an atmosphere of warmth and mutual understanding, a wide range of issues of mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries in the sphere of martime shipping was discussed and a useful exchange of views took place on the question of the activities of international maritime organizations.

In the signed final document, prospects for the further development of cooperation were outlined and the advisability of the future examination of the matter of establishing a joint Soviet-Argentine committee on shipping noted.

GORBACHEV ARTICLE ON FOOD PROGRAM CITED

LD161414 Moscow TASS in English 1110 GMT 16 Jul 82

[Text] Moscow July 16 TASS -- "The Food Program and Its Fulfillment" is the title of an article contributed to the latest issue of the magazine KOMMUNIST by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev.

"The material and technical basis of agriculture has changed cardinally during the past three five-year-plan periods as a result of the fulfillment of the course mapped out by the March 1965 plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee", he writes. "The power-per-worker ratio has more than trebled and the assets-per-worker ratio has increased four-fold. Agriculture has become more intensive and productive, possibilities have opened up in most of its branches for the extensive introduction of industrial technology".

"All this made it possible to strengthen the economy of collective farms and state farms and increase the output of agricultural produce. During the three five-year-plan periods its annual average volume has increased by 50 per cent".

The average annual rates of growth of agricultural output in the USSR during the past 15 years were higher than in many highly developed countries of the West and exceeded almost by 150 per cent the rates of population growth in the country, the article says.

It was exactly on this basis that the improvement of the nutrition of the working people took place. Thus, per capita meat consumption during these fifteen years went up by 41 per cent, of milk by 25 per cent, of eggs almost by 100 per cent and vegetables by 35 per cent. And this at a time when our population increased by 35 million. By calorie content of the diet our country today ranks among the most developed states of the world. Its share in the world output of agricultural produce is considerable. While having six per cent of the world's population the Soviet Union produces 13 per cent of all grain in the world, 20 per cent of all cotton and milk, 10 per cent of meat and 12 per cent of all eggs in the world.

"Despite the unquestionable achievements in developing the agrarian sector of the economy and the growing volumes of output of agricultural produce, the situation with food has nevertheless worsened", Gorbachev writes further. "This is a result of several causes. The present food problem has first of all a qualitative, structural nature. To a considerable extent its essence is in the discrepancy that has developed between the growth of the population's cash incomes and the growth of agricultural output. In conditions of stable state retail prices for staple foodstuffs this leads to an increased demand for the most valuable products. In addition to this there has been a drastic increase in the number of purchasers. Whereas the total number of the population increased by 15 per cent during the three five-year-plan periods, the number of regular purchasers of foodstuffs has grown to a much greater extent. This is explained both by the decline of the agricultural population and of the share of personal small holdings in the output of foodstuffs and by the transition of a considerable part of the rural population to a city way of life.

"It should also be borne in mind that the rates of increment of agricultural produce have slackened lately. This happened both because of shortcomings in the functioning of the economic mechanism and because of the extremely unfavourable weather conditions during the past three years."

It is the obtaining situation, the author of the article stresses, that necessitated the drafting and adoption of the Food Program.

The main thing today, as practice shows, is to show concern for the upsurge of agriculture, for increasing the fertility of land, Mikhail Gorbachev writes. The Food Program is oriented at the utmost strengthening of the plant-growing and other branches on which the growth of the productivity of land depends. This is backed up by the policy of capital investments and material resources.

In livestock breeding, too, the turn will be effected towards perfecting the structure of its funds and intensification of production. A reliable fodder base will play the prime role here.

When touching on the social development of the Soviet countryside, Mikhail Gorbachev stressed that this development had noticeably accelerated during the past three five-year-plan periods. The remuneration of labor has been increased as well as pensions to collective farmers and workers of state farms, and their real incomes have grown. The construction of housing, of cultural and services establishments has gained broad scope. In the period from 1966 to 1980 alone virtually every second family had its housing conditions improved.

The decisions of the May plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee are directed at substantially improving at the new stage the working and living conditions of workers in agriculture and creating the necessary social infrastructure in the collective farms and state farms. Capital investments for these purposes have never been greater. Over the period of ten years they will amount to about 160 billion roubles, so the Food Program includes large-scale measures not only of an economic and technical, but also of a social nature.

By scope and complexity the tasks set by the May plenary meeting of the Central Committee exceed everything that had to be accomplished in the past by the workers in agriculture and in the other branches of the agro-industrial complex, Mikhail Gorbachev writes in conclusion. Work should be organised in such a way that the first results of the fulfillment of the decisions of the May plenary meeting would be obtained already this year.

CSA REPORTS GRASSES, MAY HARVEST FIGURES

LD160922 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0000 GMT 16 Jul 82

[Text] The middle of summer is the time for mass cutting of grasses. Many farms are carrying out multiple harvests. According to the USSR Central Statistical Administration, by 12 July sown and natural grasses were mown on more than 40 million hectares. Altogether more than 20 million cons of hay have been prepared in the country. For example, farms in Tadzhikistan have started harvesting corn for silage. Every hectare is producing 400-500 quintals of green fodder. Plowing tractors and seed drills enter the fields as soon as combines leave them. Seeds of fast-ripening varieties of corn are being sown. This will make it possible to obtain additional fodder.

HEAVY STORM DAMAGE IN GEORGIA REPORTED

WA151600 [Editorial Report] Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian on 6 July, page 1, reports that heavy downpours accompanied by hail took place from 2-5 July in Tbilisi and in a number of other rayons in eastern Georgia. Roads were destroyed or damaged in a number of villages in Dushetskiy and Mtskhetskiy Rayons. Severe flooding took place in the Aragvi River gorge, and in Tbilisi flooding resulted in significant interruptions in the city's water supply. In Sagaredzho, hail and heavy rains destroyed vineyards and livestock buildings and washed out roads. The city of Akhmeta reported that hail damaged 1,500 hectares of vineyards, with 700 hectares reporting 60 percent losses. The city of Telavi reported that nearly every agricultural facility in the region suffered significant damage.

Flooded regions were visited by E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee; by D.L. Kartvelishvili, chairman of the Georgean Council of Ministers; and by other officials.